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2008
**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE ILLINOIS COURTS**

Administrative Summary

THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS



Left to Right: Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, Justice Charles E. Freeman, Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, Justice Robert R. Thomas, Justice Rita B. Garman, Justice Anne M. Burke.



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The 2008 Census population estimates were not available for this publication.
Therefore, the 2007 estimates were used.



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Cover Design: Inside the Illinois Supreme Court, Springfield, Illinois. The murals within the courtroom were completed in 1911 by Albert H. Krehbiel and depict the "Origin, Function, and Continuity of Law" using allegorical and mythological figures. Mr. W. Carby Zimmerman, architect of the Supreme Court Building, considered the work to be an "example of the best mural painting ever executed in the West." (information source: www.krehbielart.com) Cover photos provided by Daniels-Ackerman Photography.

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL



Cynthia Y. Cobbs
Director

I am pleased to offer the 2008 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts. The Report includes the 2008 projects of the Illinois Judicial Branch, including the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Judicial Conference; the work and activities of the Supreme Court's various Committees; and the initiatives pursued by the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.

In an era of heightened public expectations for transparency in government, the Annual Report includes an overview of 2008 state and local funding sources for the Illinois judicial branch as well as court-by-court caseload statistics. This Annual Report provides an informative and useful snapshot of Illinois' court system. We strive to make the judicial branch of government accountable and visible to the citizens of Illinois. Providing information on the work of every level of our court system is an important component of that goal.

The Administrative Office gratefully acknowledges the clerks of the supreme, appellate, and circuit courts for their invaluable assistance in the compilation of the statistical data and information contained herein. I wish to express gratitude to my staff and to all who

contributed to the development of the Annual Report. As you will see by the quality and content contained in this Report, the Illinois Judiciary remains steadfast in its commitment to justice and service to the citizens of Illinois.

In closing, I invite you to visit the Court's website at www.state.il.us/court for further information about the Illinois courts and the Administrative Office. The website is an ever expanding resource for Illinois and for our court constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Y. Cobbs".

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director

Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts





A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JUSTICE THOMAS R. FITZGERALD

The judicial branch of government is a vital and essential component of our constitutionally created democracy. In order that our way of government is strengthened and sustained, we must be vigilant in our efforts to ensure the public's trust and confidence in our courts and in our legal system. Reflected on the pages that follow is a brief summary of the work undertaken by the Illinois courts in our continuing interest to achieve that goal. On behalf of the Supreme Court of Illinois, I am pleased to present the 2008 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts.

In 2008 we improved upon some of our ongoing initiatives and brought to life some others which had been in the planning stages. Eight years ago, in 2000, and in every two years after, the Supreme Court had hosted an Education Conference for all Illinois judges. Though attendance was strongly encouraged, the overwhelming participation by Illinois judges was voluntary. In those years, the Conference consisted of two and one half days of instruction in core areas of the law.

The Court recognizes the value of continuing education as a strategy for ensuring a highly skilled and competent judiciary. These attributes bear a strong correlation to achieving public trust and confidence. Thus, following on the heels of the Court's mandate for continuing legal education for lawyers, the Court instituted mandatory continuing judicial education for judges. Shifting from the aspirational goal of 15 credit hours, the Court mandated that every sitting Illinois judge achieve 30 hours of continuing judicial education.

Satisfaction of the 30-hour mandate was made possible by attendance at Education Conference 2008. Over the course of four days, Illinois' more than 950 judges attended classes developed to enhance knowledge and judicial skills in the areas of criminal, civil and family law. Similar to the continuing education requirements for attorneys, a critical component of continuing judicial education are seminars and workshops on judicial ethics and professionalism. Education Conference 2008, like those before it, provided opportunities for learning and a forum for dialogue with judges from around the state and the exchange of ideas on the art of judging.

The Court's interest in education is not limited to legal professionals. It extends beyond the bench and the practicing bar. We recognize that civic education plays a critical role in promoting an enlightened and responsible citizenry. Indeed, within this past decade there has been a recognizable and renewed emphasis on the civic education of America's youth. Educators

and social policy makers agree that while students' competence in math and science should be encouraged, so too should an understanding of the function of government in a democratic society. The duty to teach students about government rests not exclusively with the schools, but is a shared responsibility which should include, most particularly, those institutions which are the symbols of that government.

In April, in conjunction with the commemoration of Law Day 2008, the Court announced a new feature on its website, the Student Learning Center, designed to increase awareness of how Illinois government works and to demonstrate the interrelationship between the three branches. The Center features an animated character, "Gavy," who guides visitors to the site through lessons on the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions, the executive, legislative and judicial branches of Illinois government, and how our laws are made. As an interactive website, the Student Learning Center takes full advantage of technology to engage middle school-aged children in various activities in the hopes of sparking their interest and increasing their knowledge about government.

The public's trust and confidence in the judiciary is further enhanced when those who hold that trust are accountable and demonstrate high levels of judicial performance. To demonstrate our commitment to these ideals, in December 2008, the Court announced a set of comprehensive strategies which make clear the Court's expectations of Illinois' judges, improves judicial performance by mandating participation in a judicial evaluation program, enhances the new judge mentor program, and clarifies the authority of chief circuit judges and appellate court presiding judges in their administrative roles. Included as an essential component of the strategies is the Court's *Statement of Expectations for Illinois Judges*, a copy of which is provided to every sitting Illinois judge. Key among the provisions in the *Statement* are these words:

"Critical to an independent judiciary is the public's trust and confidence in the men and women who don the robes, interpret our laws and who seek to fairly administer justice. Our judiciary represents far more than the sum of its adjudicative decisions. As judges, it becomes our responsibility to enhance the public's trust and to foster in the citizenry an unfaltering sense of confidence."

As citizens, and as members of the judiciary, we continue to learn lessons from the tragic events of 9-11

and Hurricane Katrina. We understand fully the need to ensure continued public access to our halls of justice, particularly, in times of crisis. Whether confronted with a natural disaster, a health pandemic, or matters of domestic or foreign terrorism, continuity of court operations are crucial to preserving public safety and the rule of law. In preparation, the Supreme Court adopted *Emergency Preparedness Standards for the Illinois Circuit Courts*. The Standards, crafted by our Administrative Office, in consultation with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), require that procedures be tailored to individual counties and court facilities, that there be coordination between governmental entities in responding to an emergency event, and that, in times of non-emergency, the circuits engage in training exercises for purposes of testing the efficacy of their respective plan. Each circuit's *Emergency Preparedness Plan* will serve as a reliable roadmap in navigating through a disaster.

The history of Illinois' judiciary is as rich as it is diverse and 2008 offered opportunities to both celebrate our heritage and to reflect upon our progress. Scattered throughout Illinois' vast territory are more than 100 courthouses, many of them built before the turn of the century. One of the oldest courthouses in our state was built some 150 years ago in the historic city of Mt. Vernon. Home to the Fifth District Appellate Court, the Mt. Vernon courthouse had once also been home to the Illinois Supreme Court. In the fall of 2008, the Court once again sat in Mt. Vernon to mark the 150th anniversary of the building and to celebrate Illinois' most venerable lawyer, Abraham Lincoln. There on that site, the justices of the Supreme Court, alongside the justices of the Fifth District Appellate Court, participated in the unveiling of a 9-foot tall bronze statue of Mr. Lincoln standing proudly in the front courtyard of the courthouse building.

In 1908, the Supreme Court took up permanent residence in its current home at 200 East Capitol Street in Springfield, Illinois. Two Thousand and Eight marked the centennial year of the now historic structure with its marbled corridors and mural painted ceilings. The occasion was marked by a celebration at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, with the Honorable Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court, serving as the keynote speaker.

The evolution of the Supreme Court and Illinois' judiciary are chronicled on the Court's website. Conceived and developed by our Administrative Office, the story of Illinois' judiciary is told through a collection of narratives, photographs, and vintage postcards. This section on the site features the names and biographies of past and present chief justices and justices of our Supreme Court, tracks the construction of the Supreme Court Building from the enabling legislation to completion of the structure, and includes a list of the cases argued before the Court by Abraham Lincoln as a practicing lawyer. Titled "*The Third Branch - A Chronicle of the Illinois Supreme Court*," this section is a visually appealing means by which the history of our judiciary is presented.

By constitutional mandate, the Supreme Court exercises administrative and supervisory authority over all courts and is charged with oversight of the legal profession. The court is assisted in its administrative

and supervisory function by an Administrative Director, who, among other things, oversees the work of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, implements the Court's rules and policies, and facilitates the work of the Court's several committees. The work of the Administrative Office is detailed later in this Report.

Also detailed in this Report is a summary of the work of various Supreme Court and Judicial Conference Committees. Committees serve a vital role in the work of the Court, particularly, with respect to rules of practice and procedure. New committees are created by the Court to study and make recommendations on cutting edge issues, such as e-discovery, or to develop procedures in a particular area of the law, such as child custody. In 2008, the absence of a single source of evidentiary law was the genesis of the Court's creation of the Special Committee on Illinois Evidence. The charge to the Committee is the codification of existing law on evidence which is presently contained in state statutes, Supreme Court rules and the common law. Codification of the rules in a single location will be of enormous value to Illinois' law practitioners.

As mentioned earlier, the Supreme Court is charged with oversight of the legal profession in Illinois. Each year, throughout the state, the Supreme Court justices administer the oath of office to new attorneys. In 2008 the Court admitted 3,368 new lawyers to Illinois' attorney rolls. These men and women have demonstrated that they are of good moral character and that they possess the necessary qualifications to practice as attorneys and counselors at law in the courts of the State of Illinois. More than 74,000 attorneys are currently registered on active status with the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission and are thus subject to the Court's minimum continuing legal education requirements.

Before closing, I want to commend the work of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. Under the leadership of Director Cynthia Y. Cobbs, the Administrative Office provides organizational, administrative and technical support to all three levels of Illinois' courts. I and my colleagues on the Supreme Court are grateful for the work of Director Cobbs and her staff.

I invite your review of the 2008 Annual Report of the Illinois Courts and I extend to all who partner with the judiciary in advancing the cause of justice for Illinoisans my most sincere gratitude.



Thomas R. Fitzgerald
Chief Justice





2008

Centennial
Illinois Supreme
Court
1908



On February 4, 1908, the Supreme Court of Illinois moved out of the State Capitol and into the now-historic building it inhabits today. Chief Justice John P. Hand accepted the keys to the Supreme Court Building at the dedication ceremonies in Springfield. The new building was realized through legislation that developed a Commission. The Commission, responsible for carrying out the provisions of the act, consisted of three justices, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer, and attorney general.

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The cornerstone of the new building was laid on December 20, 1906 and was completed in 1908 at a cost of \$450,500. During the dedication, Chief Justice John P. Hand remarked that the new Supreme Court Building "...is unsurpassed in beauty and convenience of arrangement by that of any other State Supreme Court building in the United States, and the people of the State may well congratulate themselves..." The building also houses the State Law Library and housed the Appellate Court for the Fourth District until 2002.



Centennial Celebration Dinner

Constructed of Bedford limestone, the magnificent building was enhanced by murals painted by Albert H. Krehbiel of Iowa, who attended the Art Institute of Chicago. In 1907, Krehbiel entered works in a competition for the award of the murals and decorative paintings for the Supreme and Appellate courtrooms. William Carbys Zimmerman, the prominent Chicago area architect of the Supreme Court Building, considered the work done by Krehbiel an "example of the best mural painting ever executed in the West." Murals in

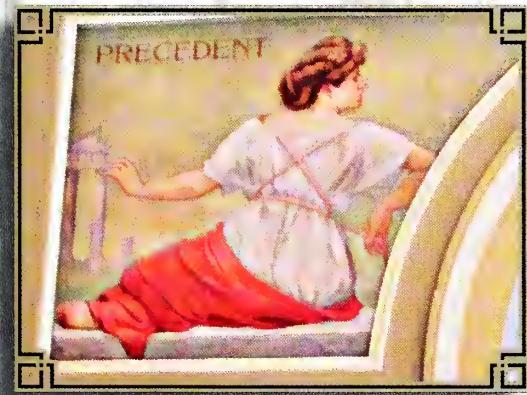




the main reading area of the Supreme Court Library were created by Edgar Spier Cameron.

Sculptor Charles James Mulligan, who studied at the Chicago Art Institute, created the limestone statues at the north façade of the building. The statues, "Law and Knowledge" and "Justice and Power," were installed between 1908 and 1910. Carved in the Circassian walnut above the entrance to the Supreme Court Courtroom is the motto "Audi Alteram Partem," which means "Hear the Other Side."

The first case argued in the new Supreme Court Building on April 23, 1908, was



Horn v. Metzger, Supreme Court Case No. 5487. Justices presiding over *Horn v. Metzger* were: Chief Justice John P. Hand, Justice James H. Cartwright, Justice Orrin N. Carter, Justice Frank K. Dunn, Justice William M. Farmer, Justice Guy S. Scott, and Justice Alonzo K. Vickers. In 2008, there were 2,955 cases filed with the Supreme Court.

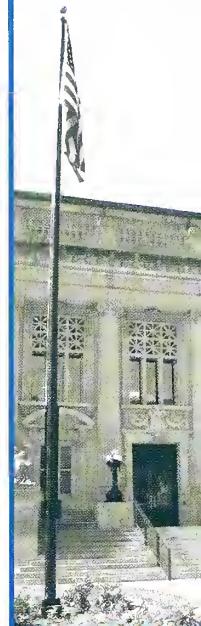
On May 20, 2008, a centennial celebration of the Illinois Supreme Court Building was held at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in Springfield.

Sponsored by the Supreme Court Historic Preservation Committee, the event was attended by current and former Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, Administrative Director and staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Illinois State Bar President, and others who were addressed by keynote speaker Justice Antonin G. Scalia, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM
"Hear the other side"



Associate Justice Antonin Scalia,
United States Supreme Court



5



Justice Robert R. Thomas, Illinois Supreme Court

Centennial

2008 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NINETY-SIXTH ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2009

Honorable Michael J. Madigan
Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
Springfield, IL 62706

Honorable John J. Cullerton
President of the Senate
State Senate
Springfield, IL 62706

Honorable Tom Cross
Republican Leader
House of Representatives
Springfield, IL 62706

Honorable Christine Radogno
Republican Leader
State Senate
Springfield, IL 62706

Messrs. Madigan, Cullerton, Cross & Ms. Radogno:

Attached is the 2008 Annual Report on behalf of the Illinois Supreme Court. I submit this Report to the General Assembly pursuant to Article VI, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, which requires the Supreme Court to report annually in writing to the General Assembly regarding the annual Judicial Conference. The Judicial Conference considers the work of the courts and suggests improvements in the administration of justice. In compliance with the constitutional mandate, this Report includes a summary of the work performed by the seven committees constituting the Judicial Conference.

The Committees of the Judicial Conference include: (1) Alternative Dispute Resolution; (2) Automation and Technology; (3) Criminal Law and Probation Administration; (4) Discovery Procedures; (5) Judicial Education; (6) Study Committee on Complex Litigation; and (7) Study Committee on Juvenile Justice. The annual meeting of the Judicial Conference was convened on October 23, 2008, to consider the aforementioned committees' reports and recommendations. Those reports detailed initiatives undertaken during Conference Year 2008. This Annual Report summarizes those initiatives, which also foretell of the projects and goals anticipated being undertaken by the Conference Committees in 2009.

With the submission of this Report to the General Assembly, the Supreme Court renews its commitment to the effective administration of justice and the management of the courts, to the careful stewardship of those resources provided for the operation of the courts, and to the development of plans and goals designed to assure that the Illinois judicial branch provides justice to our citizens and upholds the rule of law.

On behalf of the Court, I respectfully submit the Supreme Court's 2008 Annual Report to the General Assembly.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Fitzgerald
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Illinois

2008 Illinois Judicial Conference

The annual meeting of the Illinois Judicial Conference was held on October 23, 2008, in Chicago, Illinois. The Conference, which is authorized by Article VI, Section 17 of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, is mandated to consider the work of the courts and to suggest improvements in the administration of justice. The constitutional mandate is implemented through Supreme Court Rule 41, which defines the duties and the membership of the Illinois Judicial Conference. Consistent with the Rule, the Conference is composed of judges from every level of the judiciary, representing Illinois' five judicial districts. The Justices of the Supreme Court of Illinois, including the Chief Justice, who presides over the Conference, also serve as members. Through a recent amendment to Supreme Court Rule, the Administrative Director serves as an *ex-officio* member.

The work of the Judicial Conference is conducted throughout the year, largely by the efforts of seven appointed committees: Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee; Automation and Technology Committee; Study Committee on Complex Litigation; Committee on Education; Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration; Committee on Discovery Procedures; and the Study Committee on Juvenile Justice. The rosters of the various committees include appellate, circuit and associate judges who serve as full members of the Judicial Conference. Their work is aided by law professors, attorneys and some additional judges, all appointed by the Supreme Court to serve as either associate members or advisors to the committees. Senior level staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serve as liaisons to support the committees' activities.

The Executive Committee, which is also authorized through Supreme Court Rule 41, acts on behalf of the Conference when the Conference is not in session. The Executive Committee consists of fourteen judges, six of whom are from the First Judicial District (Cook County) and two members each from judicial districts two, three, four and five. The Executive Committee previews the written reports of the conference committees and submits, for the Supreme Court's approval, an agenda for the annual meeting.

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference was conducted in a one-day format to minimize judicial time away from the bench and to effectively manage costs. The meeting was

convened by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, the Honorable Thomas R. Fitzgerald. In his opening remarks, Chief Justice Fitzgerald welcomed the Conference members and thanked them for their hard work during the Conference year. He then recognized the presence of current members of the Supreme Court as well as retired Supreme Court Justices John Stamos and Benjamin Miller. In concluding his introductions, Chief Justice Fitzgerald recognized Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and thanked the Director and her staff for their noteworthy work in coordinating the committees and preparing for the annual meeting of the Conference.

Chief Justice Fitzgerald remarked, notwithstanding the constitutional mandate to convene a Judicial Conference, such a gathering to improve the administration of justice would occur, nonetheless, because of the sense of commitment to duty shared by Illinois' judges. Reflecting on the role of the courts, the Chief Justice noted that the judiciary is charged not only with deciding individual cases, but also with managing and administering the system in which those decisions are made. Asserting that the state of the Illinois courts is very strong, he proclaimed that the unifying theme of every Judicial Conference, naturally, is the continuation of a strong judiciary.

Citing *Federalist 78*, which was written to explicate and justify the structure of the judiciary under the *Constitution of the United States*, Chief Justice Fitzgerald offered a quote from Alexander Hamilton, who characterized the judiciary as the "weakest of the three branches of government as it has neither the force nor the will to impose its judgments." "The complete independence of the courts is [particularly] essential," said Hamilton, "because such independence may be a safeguard against the effects of occasional ill humors in society." Independent judges are, remarked Chief Justice Fitzgerald in contrast, the safeguard of our liberties.

Chief Justice Fitzgerald noted that the struggle for constitutional government is not singularly a struggle for good laws, but also for intelligent, independent and impartial courts. Making intelligent, independent and impartial courts is precisely the point of the Judicial Conference. To ensure that the court system operates fairly and independently, judges must make certain that the wheels of justice turn in a manner that is efficient in both the courtroom and in less traditional fora. As part of a long, standing tradition, the court's view on independent, impartial courts remains



steadfast. This firm view may be the reason that co-equal branches of government in Illinois, unlike their counterparts elsewhere, have recognized the essence of an independent judiciary.

In closing, Chief Justice Fitzgerald reminded judges that, when verdicts are rendered and orders signed, it is judges who ensure judicial independence and observe the rule of law whereby outside influences are put aside, making certain that judicial decisions involve nothing more than the application of law to the facts to reach the correct result. The important work of the Conference, the amount of study, debate and analysis that are dedicated by each committee to meet its charge and tasks, is the foundation for improving the quality and efficiency of our justice system. The committees' work, during Conference Year 2008, provides insight of the great things to come and will shape the future of the judicial branch.

The Annual Meeting continued with Conference Committee meetings devoted to finalizing Committee reports and initiating planning for Conference Year 2009. The afternoon plenary session included a presentation of each of the committees' activities in Conference Year 2008 and initial suggestions for tasks in Conference Year 2009. The following summarizes the written and oral substance of those reports:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee monitors and assesses both the court-annexed mandatory arbitration programs and mediation programs approved by the Supreme Court. During the course of the Conference year, the Committee developed a uniform arbitrator reference manual and presented it to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts for review and presentation to the Supreme Court. Upon review and appropriate consideration, the manual will be distributed to arbitration supervising judges and program administrators for use as a training tool and reference guide.

The Committee also reviewed arbitrator services in the context of *pro bono* service. As a result of that review, the committee proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules to allow arbitrators the opportunity to waive compensation and accept *pro bono* service credit instead.

Other projects commenced during the Conference year include the study of child custody and visitation mediation; identification of a mechanism for tracking statistical data;

reconsideration of a proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 91 (Absence of a Party at Hearing); consideration of an increase to arbitration program jurisdictional dollar limits and its impact; examination of the qualification for individuals chairing arbitration panels; arbitrator chair qualifications; review of the issue of attorney costs as part of an arbitration award; and, the development of an arbitration program participant satisfaction survey.

Automation and Technology Committee

In Conference Year 2008, the Automation and Technology Committee completed its analysis of video court/conference systems, including the impact of using such technologies in the trial courts and the possible need for amendments to Supreme Court Rules. For the purpose of the Committee's work, video court/conference systems are defined as an interactive video conference technology that allows judicial proceedings, such as arraignments, bond calls, first appearances, or remote testimonies, to be conducted with participants in different locations.

The use of video conference technologies appears to be an option of increasing value to the efficient administration of justice. However, the Committee cautioned that the use of such technology should be considered against its overall effect on the operation of the larger court system and, the fundamental rights of the parties to equal access to the courts and to confront witnesses. The Committee developed an impact statement that explores and describes the benefits and detriments of video court/conference systems, the scope of its use by courts, and the state of the law governing the use of this technology. The impact statement includes recommendations for amendments to Supreme Court Rules relating to the use of video court/conference systems.

Study Committee on Complex Litigation

The Study Committee on Complex Litigation researched the development of a forum for judges to disseminate information regarding the disposition of complex cases. The Committee identified no significant barriers to the formation of a judicial discussion forum on the Internet and concluded that such a forum would be useful, particularly for judges handling complex litigation.

The Committee also commenced a study

to determine whether the current methods of managing multiple parallel or overlapping litigation constituted a problem in the various circuits. Information has been solicited from the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges on this issue. Completion of the study is anticipated in Conference Year 2009.

The Committee also reviewed the Civil Manual and determined that text should be added on the subject of construction cases. Text on this new topical area is anticipated to be added as part of the first major revision of the Civil Manual, initially published in 1997. New text on declaratory judgment actions in the context of Alternate Dispute Resolution is also planned. Minor updates to the Manual include recent cases, rules and statutes compiled from Conference Years 2006-2008. The complete revised Civil Manual will be available in Conference Year 2009.

Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration

The Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration forwarded its final draft of an evidence based practices pre-sentence investigation report form to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts for consideration as a component of the Court's existing standards of probation practices. The Committee also began consideration of the utility of a criminal dispute resolution program for Illinois by examining other states' criminal dispute resolution programs.

Also during the course of this Conference year, the Committee studied and considered the feasibility of improving court efficiency in the acceptance of guilty pleas by examining both the procedures and formats used by other jurisdictions in the acceptance of written guilty pleas. The Committee concluded that while the use of a written form acknowledging the various waivers and stipulations of a guilty plea is potentially beneficial in reducing claims of ineffective assistance of counsel, a statewide mandate for the use of a particular written guilty plea form was not necessary since admonishments are mandated by rule and caselaw and also must be placed on the record.

The Committee also examined and reported on proposed Supreme Court Rule 404, which would require an admonishment, at the initial appearance of foreign nationals who are charged with a felony, of their ability to inform their consulate of their detention. Tracking the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Medellin v. Texas*, 128 S.Ct. 1346 (2008), the Committee approved the rule, as long as it was abundantly clear that the proposed rule

applied only to felony cases and the notification requirement was the responsibility of either the defendant or defense counsel, and not the trial court. The Committee suggested to the Supreme Court Rules Committee that consideration be given to drafting additional language to incorporate the statutory mandate of warning a non-resident alien that their guilty plea could lead to deportation proceedings being initiated.

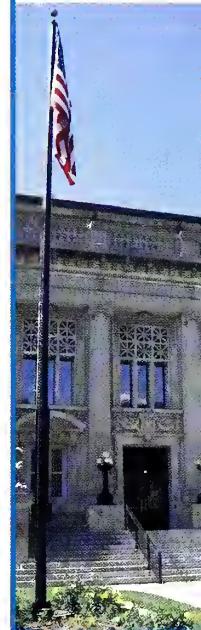
The Committee also examined and reported on proposed Supreme Court Rule 430 concerning the use of restraints in criminal trials. The Committee drafted and presented proposed Rule 430 for consideration by the court which, if adopted, will provide guidance to trial court judges on when restraints are to be used and what findings need to be made prior to the application of restraints.

Finally, the Committee continued to monitor the impact of the United States Supreme Court's decision of *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36, 124 S.Ct. 1354 (2004) on the Illinois court system.

Committee on Discovery Procedures

The purpose of the Committee on Discovery Procedures is to review and assess discovery devices used in Illinois, with the goal of making recommendations to expedite discovery and to eliminate any abuses of the discovery process. In keeping with its statement of purpose, the Committee addressed proposals to amend various Supreme Court Rules. The Committee considered a proposal, forwarded by the Supreme Court Rules Committee, to amend Supreme Court Rule 204. The proposed amendments would allow an order of body attachment to issue upon a non-party when there has been non-compliance with a discovery order or subpoena. The Committee adopted that portion of the proposal permitting an order of body attachment to issue upon a non-party provided that there is proof of personal service of the rule to show cause or order of contempt. The Committee rejected that portion of the proposal permitting a body attachment to issue upon a non-party without proof of personal service, following a showing that there exists a reasonable likelihood of imminent and irreparable harm. The Committee contended that personal service upon a non-party should not be excused.

The Committee also revised its proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 216 and 222 to address the abuses surrounding requests to admit and the impact of the Illinois Supreme Court's decision in *Vision Point of Sale, Inc. v. Haas, et al.*, 226 Ill. 2d 334 (2007), which





recognized the trial court's discretion with respect to resolving requests for admission. Specifically, the Committee's proposed amendments limit the number of requests to be consistent with Supreme Court Rule 213(c) and require prior leave of court. Amending Rule 216 to require trial court approval prior to issuance of requests to admit will eliminate many *post hoc* disputes about whether "good cause" for the failure to adhere to time limitations has been shown. The proposed amendments also recognize the trial court's discretion with respect to the timing for issuance of requests to admit and whether discovery is, or is not, needed to provide the proper response. It is the intent of the proposed amendments to provide the trial court with the ability to control the conduct of the parties so as to eliminate the abusive use of requests to admit. In conjunction with Rule 216, the Committee's proposed amendments to Rule 222, which applies to cases seeking damages not in excess of \$50,000, also limit the timing of requests to admit in such cases.

The Committee also concluded its study of e-Discovery and forwarded a report to the Supreme Court for consideration. The report discusses the current status of federal and state rules, caselaw and guidelines implemented by various organizations regarding e-Discovery. The report provides the Court with options for addressing e-Discovery issues, including: (1) revamping the Supreme Court rules to incorporate the federal rules; (2) amending select Illinois rules to conform to the federal rules; and/or (3) promulgating guidelines for trial judges.

Committee on Education

The Committee on Education is charged with identifying ongoing education needs for the Illinois judiciary and developing short-term and long-term plans to address those needs. For Conference Year 2008, the Committee received a continuing charge to identify emerging legal, sociological, cultural, and technical issues that may impact decision-making and court administration and, based on these emerging issues, to recommend and develop programs for both new and experienced Illinois judges. The Committee was charged with assessing the judicial education needs, expectations and program participation of Illinois judges and recommending topics and faculty for the annual New Judge Seminar, the annual Seminar Series, Education Conference and the Advanced Judicial Academy. The Committee also was charged with reviewing and recommending judicial education programs offered by organizations and entities

other than the Supreme Court as potential sources for continuing judicial education credit.

In accordance with its overall charge and the new Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) provisions, the Committee undertook specific activities in Conference Year 2008.

- In collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the Committee delivered and evaluated the newly expanded 30-hour curriculum for Education Conference 2008;
- Completed production and distribution of five of the six comprehensive judicial benchbooks in each of the following core curriculum areas: civil law and procedure, family law and procedure, traffic law/DUI, evidence, and domestic violence;
- Implemented the plan developed in Conference Year 2006 for enhanced identification, recruitment and preparation of judicial education faculty members in each of the recommended core curriculum areas.
- Additional activities included the continued development of plans for advanced use of technology to deliver judicial education programs and resources, including web-casting, web archiving, CD and DVD tutorials and other "distance learning" options as well as the provision of benchbooks through electronic media.
- Additional education programs presented in Conference Year 2008 included the annual New Judge Seminar, in addition to an abbreviated schedule of seminars which covered such topical areas as presiding over property related litigation, the hidden traps of sentencing, and a faculty development workshop.

Study Committee on Juvenile Justice

The Study Committee on Juvenile Justice updated Volume II of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which addresses juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of abuse, neglect and dependency. The Committee anticipates that an update of Volume II will be available for the January 2009 New Judge Seminar, which is a component of the Supreme Court's comprehensive Judicial Education Plan, with mandated attendance for every newly elected or appointed trial judge.

The Committee also reported on the efficacy of the juvenile problem-solving courts in a few

select jurisdictions. As a general observation, the Committee noted the lack of uniformity in gathering data on the effectiveness of specialty courts; the lack of standards for follow-up data to measure the success of the program; and, the lack of state-wide uniform standards to measure and collect any data in regards to such courts.

As a final matter, the Committee gathered information from each circuit court, via survey, regarding their need for mental health evaluations and services for juveniles. The survey results indicated that there is a lack of mental health services being made available to juveniles in various regions of Illinois. The Committee prepared a chart with the survey results for the courts' consideration. With the court's approval, the Committee anticipates examining practices in other jurisdictions that address both the scope of and access to mental health services for juveniles.

Summary Statement

The work of the seven Judicial Conference Committees is ongoing, with many projects and initiatives which began in Conference Year 2008, and expected to continue into Conference Year 2009. The Committees covered a broad range of topics and issues. Their work included suggestions on improving alternative dispute resolution processes, assessing the efficacy of problem-solving courts, the utility of video court/conferencing systems in the trial courts, as well as enhancing judicial competence through the development of manuals, benchbooks and course work. The continuation of these efforts will serve to greatly improve the administration of justice in Illinois.

Supreme Court Decisions Which the General Assembly May Wish to Consider

Illinois Vehicle Code - Blocked Crossing

In *Eagle Marine Industries, Inc. v. Union Pacific Railroad Company*, S. Ct. Docket No. 102462 (January 25, 2008), 227 Ill. 2d 377 (2008), the Supreme Court considered the Illinois blocked-crossing provision of the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/18c-7402(1)(b) (West 2004)) which prohibits a rail carrier from permitting a train, railroad car, or engine to block a road-highway grade crossing for more than 10 minutes unless the train, car or engine is moving or the circumstances causing the obstruction are beyond the carrier's control. Plaintiff sought a preliminary injunction against defendant to prevent it from blocking a railroad crossing for more than ten minutes. The trial court entered a permanent injunction, and the appellate court affirmed. The Supreme Court directed that the injunction be dissolved, holding that the statute violated the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution (U.S. Const., Art. I, sec. 8) and was preempted by the Federal Railroad Safety Authorization Act of 1994 (49 U.S.C. §20101 et seq. (2000)).

Illinois Vehicle Code - False or Secret Compartment in a Motor Vehicle

In *People v. Carpenter, People v. Garibaldi, People v. Montes-Medina*, S. Ct. Docket Nos. 103616, 103856, 103857 (April 17, 2008), 228 Ill. 2d 250 (2008), the Supreme Court considered section 12-612 of the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/12-612(a)), which prohibits driving a vehicle with a secret compartment. Defendants in these consolidated actions challenged the constitutionality of the statute, subsection (a) of which makes it unlawful for any person to own or operate a motor vehicle that he or she knows to contain a "false or secret compartment," defined in subsection (b) as "any enclosure that is intended and designed to be used to conceal, hide, and prevent discovery by law enforcement officers of the false or secret compartment or its contents, and which is integrated into a vehicle." The Supreme Court concluded that the statute was overly broad and potentially criminalizes innocent conduct, as it does not even require the contents of the secret compartment to be illegal for a conviction to result. The court rejected the notion that the intent to conceal something from law enforcement officers necessarily entails illegal conduct. As such, the Supreme Court held that section 12-612 violates the due process provisions of the United States Constitution (U.S. Const., Amends. V and XIV) and the Illinois Constitution (Ill. Const., Art. I, Sec. 2).



STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR THE COURTS

Financing the state court system is a shared responsibility of the state and the 102 counties of the state. Revenue to provide court services to the people of the state comes from a variety of sources: the state income tax, county property taxes, case filing fees, court-imposed fines and assessments, and other fees.

State government pays for the salaries, benefits, and office expenses of supreme and appellate court judges, and salaries and benefits of circuit court judges. Effective July 1, 2008, judicial salaries, as determined by the legislature, were: Supreme Court justices, \$196,322; appellate court judges, \$184,775; circuit court judges, \$169,555; and associate judges, \$161,077. The state also pays for support staff of supreme and appellate court judges, staff in other units of the supreme and appellate courts, a small number of other personnel in the circuit courts, and mandatory arbitration staff in several counties. Part of the cost of operating the mandatory arbitration program is offset by fees paid by participants in the program. During Calendar Year 2008, the arbitration filing and rejection fees collected amounted to \$6,494,801.

State funding for probation departments currently covers approximately 3,000 probation personnel, for which the counties receive partial salary reimbursement on a monthly basis. At the present time, state funding provides for about 25% of the total cost of probation services in the state.

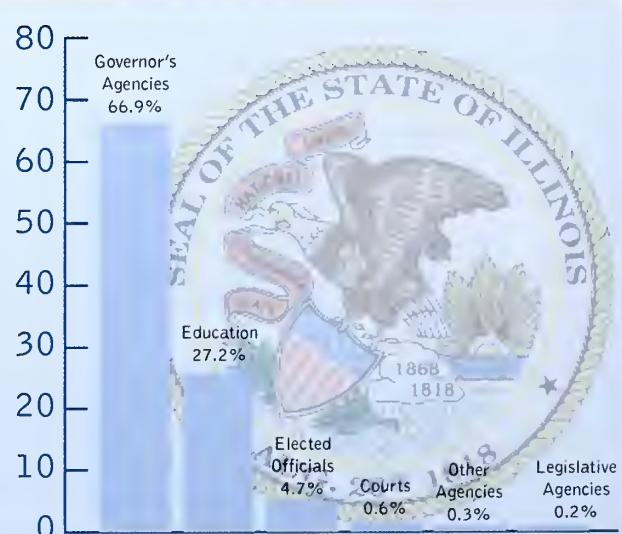
County governments pay part of the cost of financing circuit court operations. Counties provide office and courtroom space, maintenance, and support staff to assist the circuit court judges. Circuit clerks collect money to help pay for their operations and some court operations. They also collect and disburse revenues to help fund local and state government programs, as summarized on the next page.

State Funding

Appropriations for State Agencies Fiscal Year 2009

The graph to the right, shows the Supreme Court's share of the total appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009). The total appropriation was \$52,129,701,000. The appropriation for the courts was \$307,482,000.

Source: Table I-A: Appropriations
by Agency, Chapter 11
Governor's Budget Message to the
General Assembly for Fiscal Year 2010



Local Funding

The circuit clerk's office in each county provides a variety of court recordkeeping and financial accounting services. Circuit clerks are elected for four-year terms by the voters in each county. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, and maintain complete records of all cases. Employees of the clerks' offices are appointed by and are accountable to the circuit clerk, with the county board having budgetary authority. During 2008, the total number of full-time employees in all 102 circuit clerk offices was 3,685, assisted by a total of 162 part-time employees. The cost of operating all circuit clerks' offices totaled \$202,105,876 in 2008.

Revenue to pay for these court-related services comes primarily from property taxes, filing fees, and court-ordered fines and costs. Fines, fees and other costs collected by circuit clerks are governed primarily by statute and Supreme Court rule.

Revenue to Finance Local Improvements

Fees and court-ordered fines were collected in 2008 by circuit clerks and earmarked for improvements in the clerks' offices and to help defray the cost to the county of operating the courts at the local level.

Court Document Storage Fund

is used for any costs relative to the storage of court records.

\$27,011,364

Court Automation Fund

is used to establish and maintain automated systems for keeping court records.

\$27,648,272

County Law Library Fund

helps defray the costs of maintaining a law library in the county for judges, attorneys, and the public.

\$8,387,634

County Fund To Finance the Court System

is available from fees collected by circuit clerks to help finance the court system in the county.

\$6,564,031

Uncollected Claims

The Administrative Office, the Supreme Court Clerk, the Supreme Court Library, and the Clerks of the five Appellate Districts are responsible for collecting certain fees. Outstanding accounts receivable are normally collected by the unit to which the account is owed. Additionally, a small number of accounts receivable are turned over to private collection agencies and the State Comptroller's offset system. At the end of FY08, there were 129 claims due and payable, totaling \$607,651.82

Revenue to Finance Other Programs

In addition to collecting fees for local improvements, circuit clerks receive, account for, and distribute millions of dollars to county governments, various local governmental entities, and various state funds. Some of the programs and dollars collected in 2008 by circuit clerks are listed below:

Child Support and Maintenance: Court ordered payments collected and distributed by Circuit Clerks and the State Disbursement Unit.

\$1,070,730,998

Drug Treatment Fund: Court ordered drug assessments are used to pay for treatment programs for people addicted to alcohol, cannabis, or controlled substances.

\$4,065,603

Violent Crime Victims Assistance: Court ordered penalties in criminal and certain traffic cases are used to support victim and witness assistance centers throughout the state.

\$6,534,821

Trauma Center Fund: Fees collected in certain traffic, DUI, and criminal cases are used to support Illinois hospitals that are designated as trauma centers.

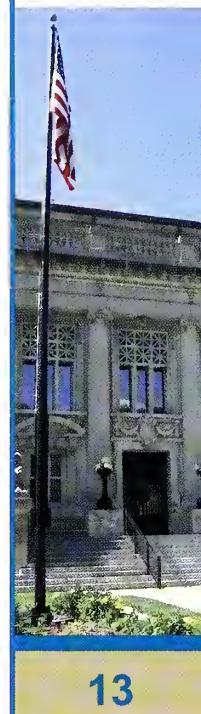
\$4,809,913

Traffic and Criminal Conviction Surcharge: An additional penalty imposed in traffic and criminal cases is used for training of law enforcement and correctional officers.

\$6,496,227

Drivers Education Fund: Penalties and forfeitures in offenses reportable to the Secretary of State are used for driver education programs in high schools.

\$2,517,145



CASEFLOW

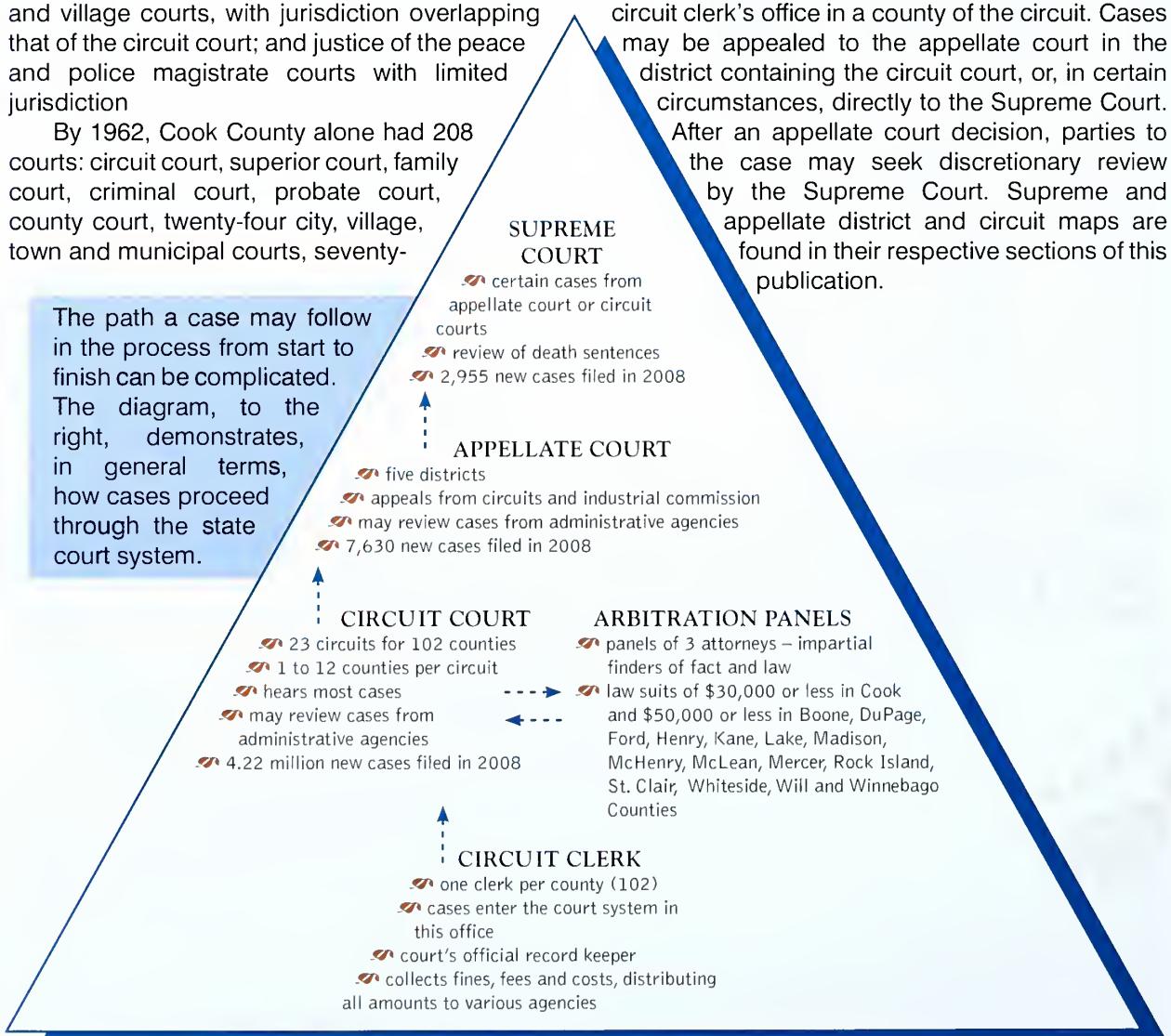
Illinois has had a unified court system since 1964. In that year, voters approved an amendment to the 1870 constitution which made major changes in the system.

Prior to 1964, the court system was fragmented. The courts of original jurisdiction had some concurrent and overlapping jurisdiction, and each court operated independently of the others. The old system had a circuit court with statewide original jurisdiction in all cases and some appellate jurisdiction; a Superior Court of Cook County having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County; the Criminal Court of Cook County also having concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court of Cook County but limited to criminal cases; a county court in each county with special jurisdiction that partially overlapped that of the circuit court; a probate court in certain counties with special jurisdiction; statutory municipal, city, town and village courts, with jurisdiction overlapping that of the circuit court; and justice of the peace and police magistrate courts with limited jurisdiction.

By 1962, Cook County alone had 208 courts: circuit court, superior court, family court, criminal court, probate court, county court, twenty-four city, village, town and municipal courts, seventy-

five justice of the peace courts, and 103 police magistrate courts. In addition, there were seven Supreme Court districts numbered from south to north and four appellate court districts numbered from north to south. For example, the first Supreme Court district was in a part of the fourth appellate court district and the seventh Supreme Court district was in a part of the first appellate court district. In today's system, as shown below, there are three levels of courts: circuit, appellate, and supreme, all operating within clearly defined geographical boundaries. The circuit court is a court of original jurisdiction which is divided into twenty-three circuits. Each circuit is located in one of five appellate court districts. Cases enter the circuit court via the circuit clerk's office in a county of the circuit. Cases may be appealed to the appellate court in the district containing the circuit court, or, in certain circumstances, directly to the Supreme Court. After an appellate court decision, parties to the case may seek discretionary review by the Supreme Court. Supreme and appellate district and circuit maps are found in their respective sections of this publication.

The path a case may follow in the process from start to finish can be complicated. The diagram, to the right, demonstrates, in general terms, how cases proceed through the state court system.



JUDICIAL BRANCH ADMINISTRATION

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Illinois, in addition to being the state's highest court, is responsible for the state's unified trial court, one appellate court with five districts, and several supporting units. General administrative and supervisory authority over the court system is vested in the Supreme Court. Several advisory bodies assist with this mission by making recommendations to the court. These include the Judicial Conference of Illinois and the various committees of the court. More information about committees can be found in the following sections. The Supreme Court also makes appointments to other committees, commissions, and boards as listed at the right. The chief justice is responsible for exercising the court's general administrative and supervisory authority in accordance with the court's rules. The Supreme Court appoints an administrative director to assist the chief justice in his duties. The staff of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts supports this function. Key support personnel exist at each level of the court to assist judges with the administration of justice. At the Supreme Court level, this includes the clerk of the Supreme Court, research director, marshal, and Supreme Court librarian and their staffs. Each support unit is described on page eighteen.

Appellate Court

At the appellate court level, the presiding judge and judges of each appellate district are assisted by a clerk of the appellate court and research director and their staffs appointed by the appellate judges. Appeals enter the clerk's office, where deputy clerks assign them filing schedules and actively monitor and review cases as they progress through record preparation, motions, briefing, and oral arguments. Problems such as late filings, jurisdictional defects, inadequate records or noncompliant briefs are referred to the court. After the court has heard an appeal, the clerk's office issues the court's decision and tracks all post-decision activity. The clerk's office also manages the court's computerized and manual recordkeeping systems and oversees the maintenance of physical facilities. The clerk responds to requests and questions concerning the court's cases and procedures. The research director oversees a staff of attorneys and secretaries providing centralized legal research services to judges.

Circuit Court

Each circuit is administered by a chief judge who is selected by the circuit court judges of the circuit. The chief judge is assisted by an administrative assistant and/or trial court administrator and other support staff. The number of counties in each circuit currently ranges from one to twelve. In each county, voters elect a circuit clerk for a four-year term. Circuit clerks, with help from deputy clerks hired by the circuit clerk, attend sessions of the court, preserve court files and papers, maintain complete records of all cases, and maintain records of money received and disbursed.

Judicial Inquiry Board

The Supreme Court appoints two circuit judges to the board, the governor also appoints four non-lawyers and three lawyers, which receives and investigates complaints against judges and prosecutes the validated complaint before the Illinois Courts Commission.

Illinois Courts Commission

The commission consists of a Supreme Court justice, two circuit judges selected by the Supreme Court, two appellate court judges selected by the appellate court, and two citizen members selected by the governor. The commission hears complaints brought by the Judicial Inquiry Board and can discipline a judge or remove a judge from office.

Board of Admissions to the Bar

The Supreme Court establishes rules and standards for the education, testing, and admission of law school graduates to the practice of law in the state and appoints seven attorneys to sit on the board. The board oversees the process of admitting law school graduates to the practice of law.

Committee on Character and Fitness

The Supreme Court appoints attorneys to a committee in each of the five judicial districts to evaluate the moral character and general fitness of applicants to practice law.

Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission

The Supreme Court establishes rules for the registration and discipline of attorneys and appoints four lawyers and three non-lawyers to the commission which oversees the registration and disciplinary process.

State Appellate Defender

The Supreme Court appoints the State Appellate Defender and two members to the State Appellate Defender Commission. Each appellate court district appoints one member to the Commission and the governor appoints two members.

Board of Trustees of the Judges Retirement System

The Supreme Court appoints three judges to the Board of Trustees of the Judges Retirement System and the chief justice is an *ex-officio* member, as is the state treasurer.

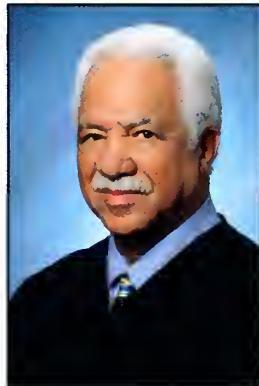


15

Court Operations

THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court is the state's highest court; it also supervises and administers the state's judicial system. The state is divided into five judicial districts, with three justices elected from the first district (Cook County) and one justice elected from each of the other four districts. Justices are elected in partisan elections for ten years and may be retained in office for additional terms of ten years. A chief justice is elected by the other justices for a term of three years.



Charles E. Freeman

Justice Freeman received a Juris Doctor degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. Early in his career he served as an Assistant Attorney General, Assistant State's Attorney, and an attorney for the Board of Election Commissioners. He served as a commissioner on the Illinois Commerce Commission from 1973 to 1976. He was in the private practice of law from 1962 to 1976. In 1976, he was elected a Circuit Judge in Cook County where he served for ten years. He was elected to the Appellate Court in 1986 and to the Illinois Supreme Court on November 6, 1990, as the first African-American to serve on the Court. On May 12, 1997, he was selected as Chief Justice and served in that capacity until January 1, 2000.



Thomas L. Kilbride

Justice Kilbride received his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C., in 1981. He practiced law for 20 years in Rock Island, engaging in the general practice of law, including appeals, environmental law, labor law, employment matters, and other general civil and criminal matters. He was admitted to practice in the United States District Court of Central Illinois and the United States Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Justice Kilbride was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the Third District in 2000.



Robert R. Thomas

Justice Thomas was born on August 7, 1952, in Rochester, NY. He received his B.A. degree in Government from the University of Notre Dame in 1974, and was named an Academic All-American in that same year. He received his J.D. degree from Loyola University School of Law in 1981. He was elected Circuit Court Judge in DuPage County in 1988. There, he presided over civil jury trials and was the Acting Chief Judge from 1989 to 1994. In 1994, Justice Thomas was elected to the Appellate Court Second District. On December 4, 2000, Justice Thomas was sworn in as the Illinois Supreme Court Justice for the Second District. In April 1996, Justice Thomas was inducted into the Academic All-American Hall of Fame, and in January 1999, he received the prestigious NCAA Silver Anniversary Award. Justice Thomas is a member of the DuPage County Bar Association. He was selected as Chief Justice during the 2005 September Term of the Supreme Court and served in that capacity until September 5, 2008.



Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald received his law degree from The John Marshall Law School, Chicago. He began his law career as a prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. When first elected to the bench in 1976, he was the youngest Cook County judge. In 1989, he was elevated to presiding judge of Cook County's criminal courts and was appointed to serve as the presiding judge of Illinois' first statewide Grand Jury. Justice Fitzgerald was elected to the Supreme Court of Illinois for the First District in 2000. He was selected as Chief Justice during the 2008 May Term of the Supreme Court and began serving his term on September 6, 2008.

Thomas R. Fitzgerald
Chief Justice

Justice Garman received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1968. She was an Assistant State's Attorney in Vermilion County from 1969 to 1973. She then engaged in private practice with Sebat, Swanson, Banks, Lessen & Garman and was an Associate Judge for 12 years. Justice Garman was a Circuit Judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit (1986-95) and Presiding Circuit Judge (1987-95). She was assigned to the Appellate Court, Fourth District, in July 1995, and was elected to the position in November 1996. Justice Garman was appointed to the Supreme Court on February 1, 2001 and subsequently elected to the Supreme Court on December 2, 2002.



Rita B. Garman

Justice Karmeier received his law degree from the University of Illinois. From 1964 through 1986, he engaged in private law practice, clerked for Illinois Supreme Court Justice Byron O. House and United States District Court Judge James L. Foreman, and served as Washington County State's Attorney. Justice Karmeier has served on the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Pattern Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases, presiding as Chair of the Committee from 2003 to 2004. He served as Resident Circuit Judge of Washington County from 1986 through 2004 when he was elected to the Supreme Court.



Lloyd A. Karmeier

Justice Burke was born on Feb. 3, 1944, in Chicago. She received her B.A. degree in education from DePaul University in 1976 and her J.D. degree from IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1983. She was admitted to the Federal Court, Northern District of Illinois, in 1983, the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in 1985, and certified for the Trial Bar, Federal District Court in 1987. In August 1995, she was appointed to the Appellate Court, First District. In 1996, she was elected to the Appellate Court, First District, for a full term. Justice Burke, the third woman to sit on the state's highest tribunal, was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court for the First District on July 6, 2006.



Anne M. Burke



SUPREME COURT SUPPORT STAFF



There are several support units which assist the Supreme Court with its work as the state's highest court. These units are located in Springfield, Bloomington, and Chicago.

Clerk of the Supreme Court. The clerk of the Supreme Court directs a staff of deputies who process cases according to court rules, monitor the caseload of the court, keep court files and records, and maintain court statistics. The clerk's office maintains the roll of attorneys licensed to practice in the state, processes the licensing of attorneys, and coordinates the semi-annual attorney admission ceremonies. The clerk also registers and renews law firms under Rule 721, keeps files of judicial financial disclosure statements, and serves as a public information officer of the court. The clerk maintains offices in Chicago and Springfield.

Marshal of the Supreme Court. The marshal attends all sessions of the court held in September, November, January, March, and May. In addition, the marshal directs a staff which maintains the Supreme Court Building and grounds, provides security for justices and employees, and conducts tours of the building.

Reporter of Decisions. The reporter of decisions directs a staff which publishes opinions of the supreme and appellate courts in the Official Reports. Employees also verify case citations, compose head notes, attorney lines, tables of cases, topical summaries, and other materials appearing in the Official Reports; and edit opinions for style and grammar.

Supreme Court Librarian. The Supreme Court librarian directs a staff who provide legal reference services to the courts, state agencies, and citizens of the state. The Supreme Court libraries include a 100,000 volume public law library in Springfield, a 40,000 volume private branch library in Chicago, and four private judicial libraries across the state. The librarian oversees all aspects of library administration including budget and program planning, materials and equipment acquisition, cataloging and collection development, and library reference and research services.

Supreme Court Research Director. The Supreme Court research director supervises a staff of attorneys who provide legal research and writing assistance to the court.

Supreme Court Chief Internal Auditor. The Supreme Court chief internal auditor and staff perform audits of the state-funded activities of the judicial branch. In addition, the internal auditor annually assesses the adequacy of internal controls for state-funded activities.

Supreme Court Caseload	Filed	Disposed
2008	2,955	2,825
2007	2,836	2,962
2006	2,992	3,048
2005	2,994	3,217
2004	3,208	3,056

SUPREME COURT DIRECTORY

Springfield (62701)
Supreme Court Building
TDD (217) 524-8132
Clerk (217) 782-2035
Librarian (217) 782-2424
Marshal (217) 782-7821

Chicago (60601)
Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 North LaSalle Street
TDD (312) 793-6185
Clerk (312) 793-1332

Bloomington (61702)
P.O. Box 3456
Reporter of Decisions
(309) 827-8513
FAX (309) 828-4651

SUPREME COURT COMMITTEES

Standing committees of the Court and chairpersons during 2008

- **Appellate Court Administrative Committee**
Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.
- **Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission**
Benedict Schwarz, II, Esq., Chair; Justice Lloyd A. Karmeier, liaison officer
Review Board - John W. Rapp, Jr., Esq., Chair.
- **Board of Admissions to the Bar**
Neil K. Quinn, Esq., President; Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.
- **Committee on Character and Fitness**
Jeffrey M. Cox, Esq., Chair; Jean M. Prendergast, Esq., Vice-Chair (First Judicial District); William F. Bochte, Esq., Chair; Robert G. Gibson, Esq., Vice-Chair (Second Judicial District); Chair Vacant; William F. Smith, Esq., Vice-Chair (Third Judicial District); Edward H. Rawles, Esq., Chair (Fourth Judicial District); Benjamin F. Edwards, Esq., Chair; Dale F. Wolff, Esq., Vice-Chair (Fifth Judicial District); Justice Robert R. Thomas, liaison officer.
- **Committee on Jury Instructions in Civil Cases**
Robert J. Napleton, Esq., Chair; Professor Nancy S. Marder, Reporter; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.
- **Committee on Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases**
Judge Bertina E. Lampkin, Chair; Patrick J. Cotter, Reporter; Professor John F. Erbes, Professor-Reporter; Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.
- **Committee on Professional Responsibility**
Richard A. Redmond, Esq., Chair; Professor Vivien C. Gross, Professor-Reporter; Justice Anne M. Burke, liaison officer.
- **Judicial Mentor Committee**
Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Status Member (Chairperson of Chief Judges' Conference); Judge Elizabeth A. Robb, Status Member (Vice-Chairperson of Chief Judges' Conference).
- **Legislative Committee of the Illinois Supreme Court**
Chair Vacant.
- **Minimum Continuing Legal Education Board**
Jack L. Brooks, Esq., Chair.
- **Planning and Oversight Committee for a Judicial Performance Evaluation Program**
Appellate Judge Joy V. Cunningham, Chair; Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officer.
- **Special Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases**
Judge Michael P. Toomin, Chair; Judge Thomas E. Callum, Vice-Chair; Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer; Vacant – Professor-Reporter.
- **Special Supreme Court Committee on Child Custody Issues**
Judge Robert J. Anderson and Judge Karen G. Shields, Co-Chairs; Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald and Justice Rita B. Garman, liaison officers.
- **Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Conduct**
Appellate Judge Mary Jane Theis, Chair.
- **Special Supreme Court Committee on Pro Bono Publico Legal Service**
Russell K. Scott, Esq., Chair; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.
- **Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Courtroom and Judicial Security**
Judge Clark E. Erickson, Chair.
- **Special Supreme Court Committee to Study Supreme Court Rule 23.**
Appellate Judge Thomas R. Appleton and J. Timothy Eaton, Esq., Co-Chairs.
- **Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism**
David F. Rolewick, Esq., Chair.
- **Supreme Court Committee on Illinois Evidence**
Judge Donald C. Hudson, Chair; Judge Warren D. Wolfson, Vice-Chair; Professor Ralph Ruebner, Professor-Reporter; Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, liaison officer.
- **Supreme Court Rules Committee**
John P. Nicoara, Esq., Chair; John B. Simon, Esq., Vice-Chair; Professor Keith H. Beyler, Esq., Reporter; Professor Jo Desha Lucas, Esq., Emeritus; Justice Thomas L. Kilbride, liaison officer.



JUDICIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Judicial Conference of Illinois, consisting of eighty-two judges, is responsible for suggesting improvements in the administration of justice in Illinois. The Executive Committee, composed of the chief justice and fourteen members of the Judicial Conference reviews recommendations of the various committees and makes recommendations to the Supreme Court, resolves questions of committee jurisdiction, acts on behalf of the Judicial Conference between annual meetings, and performs other duties delegated by the Supreme Court. The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts serves as Secretary of the Conference.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee

Judge John O. Steele
Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinating Committee monitors and assesses both the Court-annexed mandatory arbitration programs and mediation programs approved by the Supreme Court. During the course of the Conference year, the Committee developed a uniform arbitrator reference manual and presented it to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts for review and presentation to the Supreme Court. Upon review and appropriate consideration, the manual will be distributed to arbitration supervising judges and program administrators for use as a training tool and reference guide. The Committee also reviewed arbitrator services in the context of *pro bono* service as defined by the Court. The Committee reviewed and amended Supreme Court rules to allow arbitrators the opportunity to waive compensation and accept *pro bono* service credit in its stead. The Committee is in the process of creating a related form and plans to submit the proposal to the Administrative Office for review and consideration. During Conference Year 2008, the Committee also studied child custody and visitation mediation to identify a mechanism for tracking statistical data, reconsidered a proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 91 (Absence of a Party at Hearing), considered an increase to arbitration program jurisdictional dollar limits and its impact, examined arbitrator chair qualifications, reviewed the issue of attorney costs as part of an arbitration award, and began to develop an arbitration program participant satisfaction survey.

Committee on Automation and Technology

Judge Kenneth A. Abraham
18th Circuit, Chair

The Illinois Judicial Conference Automation and Technology Committee completed its analysis of video court/conference systems, including the effect of such systems on Supreme Court Rules and the impact of using video court technologies in the trial courts. The Committee prepared an impact statement summarizing its findings, including the benefits and detriments to the use of video court/conference systems as they relate to criminal and civil hearings. The Committee also reviewed the Disaster Recovery Guide presented to the Judicial Conference in 2006 and proposed no changes to the Guide at this time. The Committee found that the use of video conference technologies appears to be an option of increasing value to the efficient administration of justice. However, the use of video court systems should be considered against its overall effects on the operation of the larger court system and the fundamental rights of the parties to its equal access and to confront witnesses. Most recently, the improvements in technology

and the clarification of means whereby technology and civil rights may coexist have led court systems to, again, review video court/conference systems and their use in the courtroom. The impact statement included recommendations to the Conference for new and changes to existing Supreme Court Rules relating to the use of video court/conference systems. The Committee also recommended the formation of county committees to assist with the implementation and ongoing use of video court/conferencing systems.

Study Committee on Juvenile Justice

Judge John R. McClean, Jr.
14th Circuit, Chair

During the 2008 Conference Year, the Committee updated Volume II of the *Illinois Juvenile Law Benchbook*, which addresses juvenile court proceedings involving allegations of abuse, neglect and dependency. Specifically, the Committee noted any statutory changes and relevant caselaw. The Committee also reported on the efficacy of the juvenile problem-solving courts in Cook County, Kane County, Peoria County and Will County. The Committee noted the lack of conformity when it comes to gathering data on the effectiveness of specialty courts; the lack of standards for follow-up data to measure the success of the program; and the lack of state-wide uniform standards to measure and collect any data in regards to such courts. As a final matter, the Committee gathered information from each circuit court via a survey regarding their need for mental health evaluations and services for juveniles. The survey results, which were incorporated into a chart, indicate a lack of mental health services available to juveniles in various regions of Illinois.

Study Committee on Complex Litigation

Judge Eugene P. Daugherty
13th Circuit, Chair

During the 2008 Judicial Conference year, the Study Committee on Complex Litigation researched the development of a forum for judges to disseminate information regarding the disposition of complex cases. The Committee identified no significant barriers to the formation of a judicial discussion forum on the Internet and concluded that such a forum would be useful, particularly for judges handling complex litigation. The Committee also studied whether the current methods of managing multiple parallel or overlapping litigation constituted a problem in the various circuits. The Committee distributed a written query to the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges in this regard and received responses to its inquiries from the chief circuit judges and/or trial court administrators in several of the various circuits throughout the state. The responses indicated that current methods of managing such litigation are adequate and no significant problems were identified. As its

sole project/priority carried over from Conference Year 2007, the Committee reviewed the Civil Manual and determined that text should be added on the subject of construction cases. The Committee anticipates that this text will be added as part of a comprehensive new edition of the Civil Manual - the first since the current 1997 edition was completed - which is anticipated to be commenced in Conference Year 2009. In the interim, the Committee updated the Civil Manual with pertinent cases, rules and statutes from Conference Years 2006-2008 and issued these updates in electronic form in December 2008. Last, the Committee reviewed the Civil Manual ADR Chapter for purposes of including text on declaratory judgment actions. This text is anticipated to be included in the new edition of the Civil Manual, to be commenced in Conference Year 2009.

Committee on Education

Judge M. Carol Pope

Fourth District Appellate Court, Chair

The Committee on Education is charged by the Supreme Court with developing judicial education resources which enable Illinois Judges to hone the knowledge and skills needed to be efficient, effective jurists. In 2006, the Supreme Court promulgated Minimum Continuing Judicial Education (MCJE) requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate judges and charged the Committee, in collaboration with the Administrative Office, to develop the expanded 30-hour Education Conference for 2008. The Conference, presented in alternate years, enables judges to fulfill the requirements of the new MCJE provisions. In 2008, the Committee worked closely with the Administrative Office to deliver two sessions of the inaugural 30-hour Education Conference attended by 950 Illinois judges. Education Conference 2008 was designed to include basic and advanced sessions, using interactive techniques and problem solving elements, and provide judges the ability to customize their curriculum to match their needs in such training tracks as ethics, family law, civil law and criminal law.

In order to implement the expanded curriculum, the Committee worked with the Administrative Office to enhance the identification, recruitment and preparation of judicial education faculty. The Committee also completed work on five of the six core judicial benchbooks-Civil, DUI/Traffic, Family Law, Evidence and Domestic Violence in 2008. The Criminal Law Benchbook will be published in 2009. The benchbooks, organized and indexed in a manner to provide judges clear and concise direction on complicated matters, are available in electronic and hard copy formats.

Planning for the fifth biennial Advanced Judicial Academy, approved by the Supreme Court to be held in 2009, was aided by a dedicated workgroup. The 2009 Academy, entitled "Judging in a Democratic Society", will again be held at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign, Illinois. Finally, the Committee planned the annual seminar series, consisting of regional and mini-seminars, presented the annual New Judges Seminar, and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Committee programs.

Committee on Discovery Procedures

Judge Mary Anne Mason

Circuit Court of Cook County, Chair

During the 2008 Conference Year, the Committee concluded its study of e-Discovery and forwarded a report for the Supreme Court's consideration. The report discusses the current status of federal and state rules, caselaw and guidelines promulgated by various organizations regarding e-Discovery. The report provides the Court with options for addressing e-Discovery issues, including revamping the Supreme Court Rules to incorporate the federal rules; amending select Supreme Court Rules to conform to the federal rules; and/or promulgating standards/guidelines for trial judges. In 2008, the Committee also adopted in part, and rejected in part, a proposal to amend Supreme Court Rule 204 to create a new paragraph allowing an order of body attachment to issue upon a non-party where there has been non-compliance with a discovery order or subpoena. The Committee adopted only that portion of the proposal permitting an order of body attachment to issue upon a non-party where there is proof of personal service of the rule to show cause or order of contempt. Finally, the Committee revised its proposed amendments to Supreme Court Rules 216/222 to address the abuses surrounding requests to admit and the impact of the Illinois Supreme Court's decision in *Vision Point of Sale, Inc. v. Haas et al.*, 226 Ill. 2d 334 (2007), which recognized the trial court's discretion with respect to resolving requests for admission. Specifically, the Committee's proposed amendments limit the number of requests to be consistent with Rule 213(c) and require prior leave of court.

Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration

Judge Mary S. Schostok

Second District Appellate Court, Chair

The Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Criminal Law and Probation Administration undertook several significant projects in 2008. Research continued on the feasibility of a criminal alternative dispute resolution program in Illinois including a presentation by an expert in the field of alternative dispute resolution. The Committee also examined ways to improve court efficiency in the acceptance of guilty pleas. At the request of the Supreme Court Rules Committee, the Committee reviewed and commented on a proposed rule concerning the admonishment of foreign nationals charged with a felony, and detained as a result, of their right to inform their respective consulate of their detention. At the request of the Supreme Court, the Committee also drafted a proposed rule which would provide guidance to courts on the use of restraints inside the courtroom. The Committee also examined other issues affecting criminal law and procedure, and continued to discuss and monitor the impact of the United States Supreme Court Case of *Crawford v. Washington* and any of its progeny concerning confrontation clause issues.

Members of the Executive Committee of the Illinois Judicial Conference During 2008

Chief Justice Thomas R. Fitzgerald, Chair

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Secretary

Adrienne W. Albrecht, Circuit Judge, 21st Circuit

Robert L. Carter, Appellate Judge, 3rd District

Timothy C. Evans, Chief Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Susan Fox Gillis, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Shelvin Louise Marie Hall, Appellate Judge, 1st District

Robert K. Kilander, Circuit Judge, 18th Circuit

John C. Knight, Circuit Judge, 3rd Circuit

Rita M. Novak, Associate Judge, Circuit Court Cook County

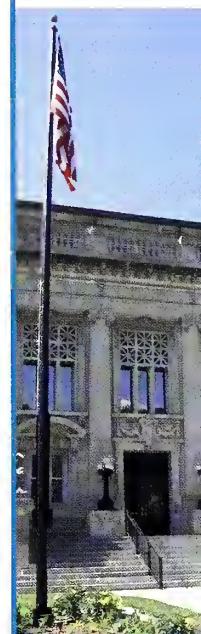
Stephen H. Peters, Circuit Judge, 6th Circuit

M. Carol Pope, Appellate Judge, 4th District

Robert B. Spence, Circuit Judge, 16th Circuit

John O. Steele, Appellate Judge, 1st District

Joseph J. Urso, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County



APPELLATE COURT

Except for those cases appealed directly to the Supreme Court, a person has the right to request a review of a circuit court judge's decision by the appellate court.

The appellate court is organized into five districts. The first meets in Chicago, the second in Elgin, the third in Ottawa, the fourth in Springfield, and the fifth in Mt. Vernon.

Each district can have one or more divisions. There are six divisions in the first district and one in each of the other four. The Supreme Court assigns judges to the various divisions. The presiding judge of each division assigns judges to panels of three to hear appeals.

The number of appellate court judgeships, currently fifty-two, is determined by the legislature. The Supreme Court can assign additional circuit, appellate or retired judges temporarily to any district.

Judges are elected by voters in each district for ten-year terms, and may be retained for additional ten-year terms. Each judge has a support staff of two law clerks and a secretary.

Each district manages its own operations, subject to the overall authority of the Supreme Court. In the first district (Cook County), an executive committee exercises general administrative authority. This committee elects a chairperson and vice-chairperson for one year. In the other districts, judges select one of their members to serve as presiding judge for one year.

Total Cases Filed*	Filed	Disposed
2008	7,630	7,925
2007	7,631	7,853
2006	7,838	8,251
2005	8,153	7,884
2004	8,060	8,327

*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Civil & Criminal Case Load	Civil* Filed	Civil* Disposed	Criminal Filed	Criminal Disposed
2008	4,103	4,170	3,527	3,755
2007	4,000	4,119	3,631	3,734
2006	4,186	4,271	3,652	3,980
2005	4,453	4,569	3,700	3,315
2004	4,334	4,809	3,716	3,518

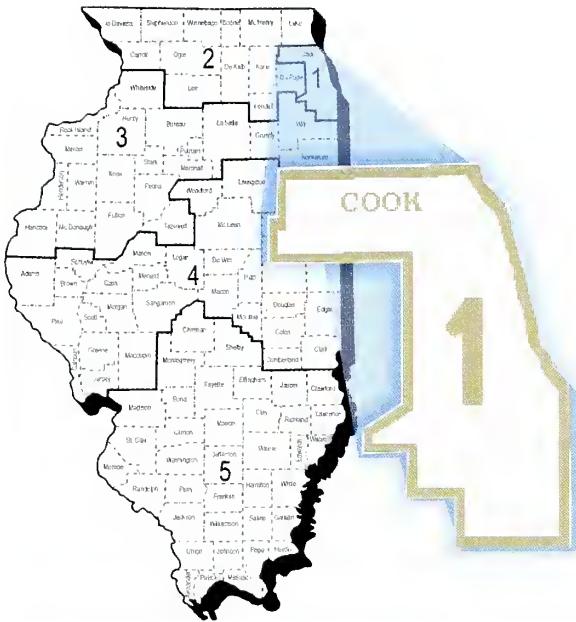
*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Appellate Court Administrative Matters

Annual Meeting: The appellate court held its annual meeting in September 2008 with Judge Mary Kay O'Brien presiding as honorary chair. Forty-four appellate judges attended the meeting. Pursuant to section 15(e) Article VI of the Illinois Constitution, the Illinois Appellate Court selects two appellate judges to serve as regular members and three appellate judges to serve as alternate members on the Illinois Courts Commission. Judge Margaret Stanton McBride (First Judicial District) and Judge Mary W. McDade (Third Judicial District) served as regular members. Judges Susan F. Hutchinson, Sue E. Myerscough, and Richard Goldenhersh were elected as alternate members. Terms of both regular and alternate members pertain to service in 2008. Judge Robert Gordon was selected to serve as the next honorary chair of the Illinois Appellate Court Annual Meeting to be held in 2009.

Administrative Committee: The Appellate Court Administrative Committee studies and recommends improvements to the Illinois Appellate Court. The Committee also plans and sponsors the annual Appellate Court Conference. The Conference was held in September 2008 in Springfield to which fifty-two appellate judges, appellate clerks, and research directors attended. Sessions addressed during the Conference included Challenges to Judicial Independence, Law Schools: Then and Now, The Foundation Issues of the Appellate Process: Jurisdiction, Standard of Review, *Stare Decisis*, and a review of U.S. and Illinois Supreme Court Decisions and panel discussion. The Committee elected Judge Susan F. Hutchinson as Chair to the Committee and Justice Rita B. Garman serves as the liaison officer from the Illinois Supreme Court.

FIRST DISTRICT



APPELLATE JUDGES

DIVISION I

Robert E. Gordon, Presiding Judge*

Rodolfo Garcia*

Shelvin Louise Marie Hall
Warren D. Wolfson*

DIVISION II

Themis Karnezis, Presiding Judge*

Joy V. Cunningham

Thomas E. Hoffman ++
Leslie E. South

DIVISION III

Michael J. Murphy, Presiding Judge

Sharon Johnson Coleman
Mary Jane Theis
Patrick J. Quinn +

DIVISION IV

Sheila M. O'Brien, Presiding Judge

Michael J. Gallagher
P. Scott Neville, Jr.*
John O. Steele

DIVISION V

James G. Fitzgerald Smith, Presiding Judge

Margaret O'Mara Frossard*
Michael P. Toomin*
John P. Tully

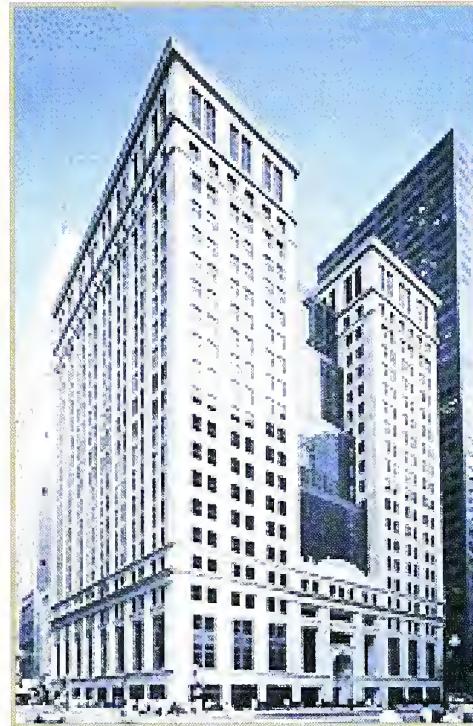
DIVISION VI

Denise O'Malley, Presiding Judge

Robert Cahill
Joseph Gordon
Margaret S. McBride

+ chair ++ vice-chair:
Executive Committee;

*circuit judge assigned to
appellate court



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First District - Chicago

Michael A. Bilandic Building
(Formerly State of Illinois Building)
Completed in 1924; Remodeled in 1992;
Renamed in 2003
(Holabird & Root/CDB photo)

Steven M. Ravid, Clerk
Marilyn T. Kuhawa, Research Director

Circuit:

Circuit Court of Cook County

District Population:

5,285,107 (2007 est.)

Civil & Criminal Caseloads	Civil**		Criminal	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2008	2,020	1,987	1,582	1,697
2007	1,820	1,998	1,715	1,808
2006	1,965	1,989	1,768	1,956
2005	2,153	2,227	1,927	1,577
2004	2,017	2,292	1,837	1,669

** Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Industrial Commission Division Pending
2008 5,738
2007 5,589
2006 5,551
2005 5,358
2004 4,820

*Totals include Industrial Commission Cases

SECOND DISTRICT



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Second District Courthouse - Elgin
Completed in 1966 (Second District Photo)

55 Symphony Way,
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 695-3750

Robert J. Mangan, Clerk
Jeffrey H. Kaplan, Research Director

Circuits (Counties):

- 15th (Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle & Stephenson)
- 16th (DeKalb, Kane & Kendall)
- 17th (Boone & Winnebago)
- 18th (DuPage)
- 19th (Lake)
- 22nd (McHenry)

District Population: 3,184,500 (2007 est.)



APPELLATE JUDGES

Kathryn E. Zenoff*, Presiding Judge

John J. Bowman
Michael J. Burke*
R. Peter Grometer*
Susan F. Hutchinson
Ann B. Jorgensen
Robert D. McLaren
Jack O'Malley
Mary S. Schostok

*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

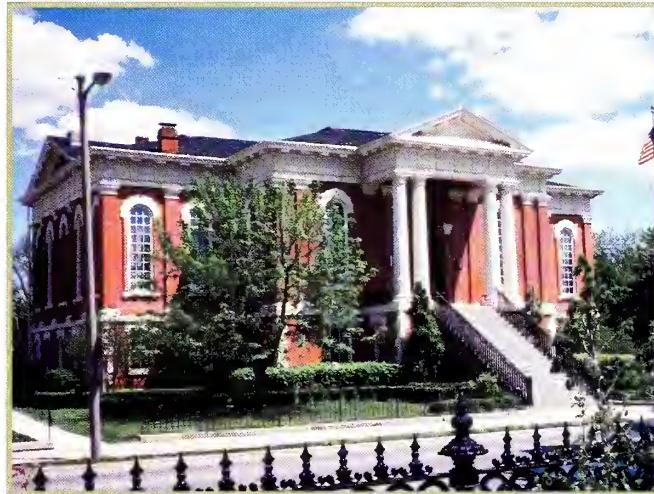
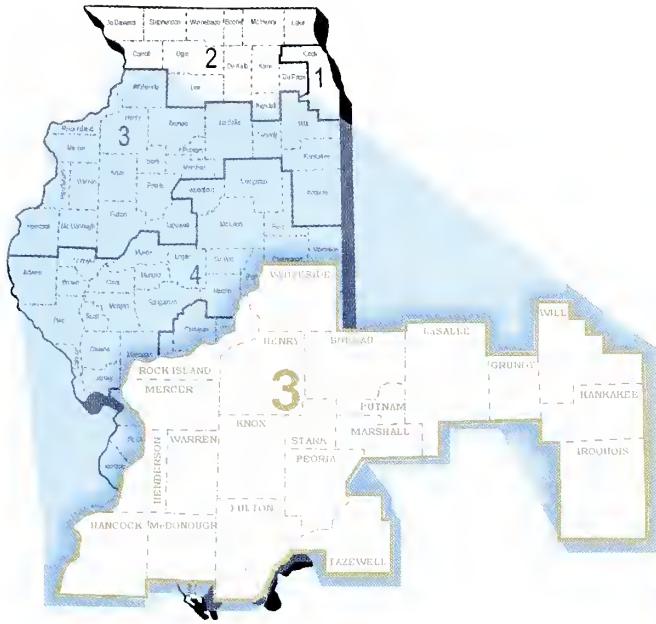
Civil & Criminal Caseloads	Civil** Filed	Civil** Disposed	Criminal Filed	Criminal Disposed
2008	633	612	591	620
2007	629	606	659	601
2006	649	629	647	625
2005	697	683	572	548
2004	651	820	606	599

** Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Total Pending Caseload*	All Case Categories	Pending
2008		1,689
2007		1,658
2006		1,550
2005		1,471
2004		1,396

*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

THIRD DISTRICT



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APPELLATE JUDGES

Mary W. McDade, Presiding Judge

Robert L. Carter
William E. Holdridge
Tom M. Lytton
Mary K. O'Brien
Daniel Schmidt
Vicki Wright

Third District Courthouse - Ottawa
Completed in 1860 (Gist Fleshman Photo)

1004 Columbus Street,
Ottawa, IL 61350
(815) 434-5050

Gist Fleshman, Clerk
Gerald Ursini, Research Director

Circuits (Counties):
9th (Fulton, Hancock, Henderson,
Knox, McDonough & Warren)
10th (Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark & Tazewell)
12th (Will)
13th (Bureau, Grundy & LaSalle)
14th (Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Whiteside)
21st (Iroquois & Kankakee)

District Population: 1,785,773 (2007 est.)

Year & Division	Civil**		Criminal	
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2008	444	456	578	480
2007	456	445	472	458
2006	477	533	454	513
2005	480	489	417	408
2004	509	513	460	432

**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Total Pending Cases in All Case Categories	Pending
2008	988
2007	884
2006	849
2005	950
2004	945

*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

FOURTH DISTRICT



Fourth District Courthouse - Springfield
 Waterways Building
 Renovated in 2001
 (Photo by Terry Farmer Photography, Inc.)
 201 West Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62794
 (217) 782-2586

Darryl Pratscher, Clerk
 Shirley Wilgenbusch, Research Director

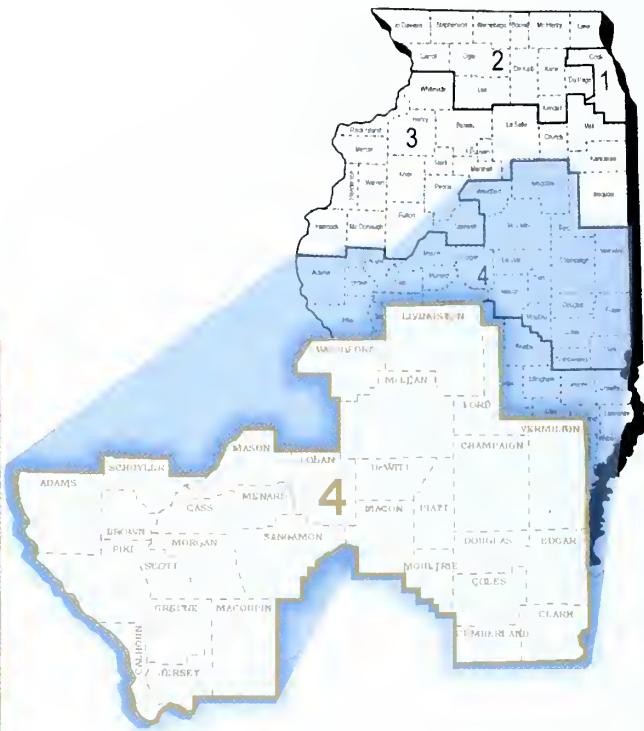
Circuits (Counties):

- 5th (Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Edgar & Vermilion)
- 6th (Champaign, DeWitt, Douglas, Macon, Moultrie & Piatt)
- 7th (Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)
- 8th (Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Mason, Menard, Pike & Schuyler)
- 11th (Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean & Woodford)

District Population: 1,292,316 (2007 est.)

Civil & Criminal Caseloads	Civil** Filed	Civil** Disposed	Criminal Filed	Criminal Disposed
2008	443	554	511	707
2007	533	524	518	607
2006	535	510	540	652
2005	523	546	532	519
2004	507	526	546	536

**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases



APPELLATE JUDGES

John T. McCullough, Presiding Judge

Thomas R. Appleton*
 James A. Knecht
 Sue E. Myerscough
 M. Carol Pope*
 Robert J. Steigmann
 John W. Turner

*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Total Pending Caseload*

All Case Categories	Pending
2008	661
2007	964
2006	1,028
2005	1,090
2004	1,088

*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

FIFTH DISTRICT



APPELLATE JUDGES

James M. Wexsten, Presiding Judge

Melissa A. Chapman
James K. Donovan
Richard P. Goldenhersh
Stephen L. Spomer*
Bruce D. Stewart
Thomas M. Welch

*circuit judge assigned to appellate court

Court Case Type	Civil** Filed	Civil** Disposed	Criminal Filed	Criminal Disposed
2008	364	395	265	251
2007	410	409	267	260
2006	418	460	243	234
2005	461	488	252	263
2004	513	530	267	282

**Totals do not include Industrial Commission Division Cases

Total Pending Dispositions	Pending
All Court Case Types	
2008	735
2007	752
2006	721
2005	736
2004	756

*Totals include Industrial Commission Division Cases

CIRCUIT COURTS

The court of “original jurisdiction” is the circuit court. There are twenty-three circuits in the state, five of which are single county circuits (Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry). The remaining eighteen circuits contain two to twelve counties per circuit.

In Illinois, the circuit court is the court of original jurisdiction. There are twenty-three circuits in the state. Five are single county circuits (Cook, Will, DuPage, Lake, and McHenry) and the remaining eighteen circuits comprise as few as two and as many as twelve counties each. Except for redistricting of the general assembly and ruling on the ability of the governor to serve or resume office, the circuit court has jurisdiction for all matters properly brought before it. The circuit court shares jurisdiction with the Supreme Court to hear cases relating to revenue, mandamus, prohibition, and habeas corpus. If the Supreme Court chooses to exercise its authority in a case of these types, the circuit court loses jurisdiction. The circuit court is also the reviewing court for certain state agency administrative orders. There are two types of judges in the circuit court: circuit judges and associate judges. Circuit judges are elected for a six year term and may be retained by voters for additional six year terms. They can hear any circuit court case. Circuit judges are initially elected either circuit-wide, from the county where they reside or from a sub-circuit within a county, depending on the type of vacancy they are filling. Associate judges are appointed by circuit judges, pursuant to Supreme Court rules, for four-year terms. An associate judge can hear any case, except criminal cases punishable by a prison term of one year or more (felonies). An associate judge can be specially authorized by the Supreme Court to hear all criminal cases. Circuit judges in a circuit elect one of their members to serve as chief circuit court judge. The chief judge has general administrative authority in the circuit, subject to the overall administrative authority of the Supreme Court. The chief judge can assign cases to general or specialized divisions within the circuit.



Circuit Court Administrative Matters

Conference of Chief Circuit Judges: The Conference of Chief Circuit Judges is composed of the chief circuit judges from the twenty-three Illinois judicial circuits. Judge S. Gene Schwarm, Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, serves as chairperson of the Conference; Judge Stephen D. White, Chief Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, is vice-chairperson. The conference meets regularly to discuss issues related to the administration of justice in the circuit courts and other matters referred to the conference by the Supreme

Court. The Administrative Office serves as secretary to the Conference.

Conference Committees and Activities: The Conference has established committees to address particular issues and to provide information and recommendations. Committees active during 2008 include the Article V Committee; Committee on Forms; Committee to Revise the Chief Circuit Judges' Manual; Domestic Relations Committee; Jury Panel Representation Committee; Juvenile Committee; Long-Range Planning Committee; Orientation Committee; Pandemic Outbreak Benchbook Committee; Prison Committee; Probation Committee; Specialty Courts Committee; and several ad hoc committees convened to study specific, short-term topics.

During 2008, the committees and the Conference were active in a number of areas. The Long Range Planning Committee, with assistance from the staff of the Department of Public Health, offered a presentation to chief judges and court administrators on operations of the courts during a pandemic virus outbreak. The Domestic Relations Committee worked with mediator groups, the Illinois State Bar Association and judges to design training to assist mediators with compliance of continuing legal education requirements. The Article V Committee, Domestic Relations Committee, Committee on Forms, Juvenile Committee, Prison Committee, Specialty Courts Committee, and Probation Committee continued to monitor and analyze new legislation and Supreme Court Rules relevant to each committee's particular subject matter. As necessary, related forms, policy, orders, etc., were modified in accordance with the new provisions. The Conference, at the request of the Supreme Court, reviewed and made recommendations regarding implementation of emergency preparedness plans for the circuit courts.

In the interest of furthering the knowledge and skills of its members, the Conference addressed at its meetings a variety of topics relating to trial court issues. For example, the Conference heard a presentation from the Circuit Court of Cook County regarding increased mortgage foreclosure filings and learned of options to address this issue. The AOIC made a presentation to assist circuits with organizational structures of probation departments. In addition, the Secretary of State's office made a presentation related to DUI offenses and relative issues for circuit courts.

CASE CATEGORIES

CIVIL: Law and Law Magistrate for monetary damages over \$10,000; Arbitration; Small Claims (amounts up to \$10,000)*; Chancery (e.g., title to real property and injunctions); Miscellaneous Remedy (e.g., review of decisions of administrative bodies, habeas corpus matters, and demolition); Probate (e.g., estates of deceased persons and guardianships); Order of Protection (petition for order of protection and civil no contact order filed separately from an existing case); Dissolution (e.g., divorce, separate maintenance, and annulment); Mental Health (e.g., commitment and discharge from mental facilities); Eminent Domain (e.g., compensation when property is taken for public use); Municipal Corporation and Tax (e.g., matters pertaining to the organization of municipalities and collection of taxes at the local level); Adoptions; Family (e.g., proceedings to establish parent-child relationship and actions relating to child support).

CRIMINAL: Felony (e.g., a criminal case in which the offense carries a penalty of at least one year in prison) and Misdemeanor. OTHER: Ordinance, Conservation, Traffic (excluding parking tickets), and DUI.

JUVENILE: Abuse and Neglect, Delinquent, and Other (e.g., a minor who requires authoritative intervention).

*Small Claim amount increased to \$10,000 effective January 1, 2006. (Amended Supreme Court Rule 281).



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	Civil Filed	Civil Disposed	Juvenile Filed	Juvenile Disposed	Felony Filed	Felony Disposed
2008	753,569	750,484	28,834	25,143	90,466	91,307
2007	773,204	732,016	27,131	27,148	93,183	94,914
2006	706,836	700,608	26,454	28,921	95,747	95,676
2005	672,781	677,728	28,519	32,662	94,125	98,293
2004	685,557	744,429	28,269	29,847	94,312	94,677

2008 Total Cases Filed

Traffic (excl. DUI)	2,780,850
Civil (excl. OP)	704,303
Misdemeanor	350,015
Conservation/Ordinance	154,720
Felony	90,466
DUI	61,667
Order of Protection	49,266
Juvenile	28,834

Total Cases Filed	Filed	Disposed
2008	4,220,121	4,239,358
2007	4,455,546	4,361,424
2006	4,305,551	4,248,347
2005	4,213,730	4,226,456
2004	4,240,303	4,247,766



Richard J. Daley Center

(Photo courtesy of the
Chicago Architecture Foundation)

**Timothy C. Evans,
Chief Judge**

2600 Daley Center
Chicago, IL 60602

Circuit Population:

5,285,107

(2007 est.)

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	477,666	21,453	14,392
2007	462,673	22,080	12,828
2006	412,285	22,815	15,022
2005	396,180	23,039	18,137
2004	380,815	24,386	14,168

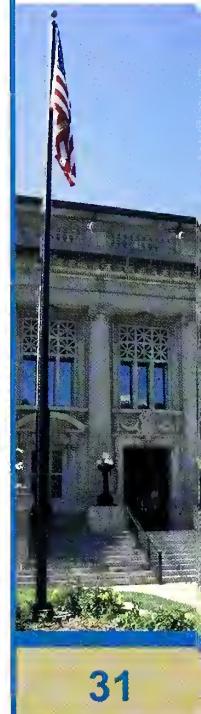
Total Caseload	Filed	Disposed
2008	1,761,364	1,768,850
2007	1,955,480	1,847,369
2006	1,873,192	1,821,063
2005	1,822,758	1,820,929
2004	1,920,378	1,896,278

CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

(First Appellate District)

Circuit Judges:

- Martin S. Agran
- Denise K. Filan
- Mauricio Araujo
- Kathy M. Flanagan
- Edward A. Arce
- Thomas E. Flanagan
- Nancy J. Arnold
- James P. Flannery, Jr.
- Robert Balanoff
- Ellen L. Flannigan
- Patricia Banks
- John J. Fleming
- Ronald F. Bartkowicz
- Kenneth L. Fletcher
- Carole K. Bellows
- Peter Flynn
- Gerald C. Bender
- Nicholas R. Ford
- Michael Ian Bender
- Raymond Funderburk
- Andrew Berman
- Vincent M. Gaughan
- Jeanne Cleveland Bernstein
- James J. Gavin
- Robert W. Bertucci
- Nicholas Geanopoulos
- Paul P. Biebel, Jr.
- Bettina Gembala
- Richard J. Billik Jr.
- Allen S. Goldberg
- Daniel P. Brennan
- William E. Gomolinski
- Margaret Ann Brennan
- John C. Griffin
- Eileen Mary Brewer
- Susan Ruscitti Grussel
- Cynthia Y. Brim
- Catherine M. Haberkorn
- Rodney Hughes Brooks
- William J. Haddad
- Janet Adams Brosnahan
- Sophia H. Hall
- Mary M. Brosnahan
- Orville E. Hambright, Jr.
- James R. Brown
- Kay M. Hanlon
- Henry A. Budzinski
- La Quietta J. Hardy-Campbell
- Dennis J. Burke
- Edward Harmening
- Kathleen Marie Burke
- Sheldon A. Harris
- Charles Burns
- Shelli Williams Hayes
- Anthony L. Burrell
- Curtis Heaston
- Thomas J. Byrne
- Pamela E. Hill Veal
- Diane Gordon Cannon
- Margarita Kulys Hoffman
- Robert Lopez Cepero
- Thomas R. Chiola
- Vanessa A. Hopkins
- Gloria Chevere
- William L. Hogan
- Evelyn B. Clay
- Carol M. Howard
- LaGuina Clay-Clark
- Garrett E. Howard
- Martin D. Coghlan
- Michael J. Howlett, Jr.
- Mary Ellen Coghlan
- Nathaniel R. Howse, Jr.
- Matthew E. Coghlan
- Moshe Jacobius
- Melvin J. Cole
- Raymond L. Jagielski
- Ann Collins-Dole
- Marilyn F. Johnson
- Claudia G. Conlon
- Donna L. Cooper
- Dorothy F. Jones
- Maureen E. Connors
- Clayton J. Crane
- Rickey Jones
- Thomas M. Davy
- Sidney A. Jones III
- David Delgado
- Anna Helen Demacopoulos
- Daniel E. Jordan
- Grace G. Dickler
- Edward R. Jordan
- Francis J. Dolan
- Michelle D. Jordan
- Christopher J. Donnelly
- Paul A. Karkula
- John T. Doody, Jr.
- Joseph G. Kazmierski, Jr.
- Deborah M. Dooling
- Thomas J. Kelley
- Jennifer Duncan-Brice
- Carol A. Kelly
- Laurence J. Dunford
- James W. Kennedy
- Loretta Eadie-Daniels
- Kathleen G. Kennedy
- James D. Egan
- Kerry M. Kennedy
- Lynn Marie Egan
- Diana L. Kenworthy
- Richard J. Elrod
- Dorothy K. Kinnaird
- James R. Epstein
- John P. Kirby
- Candace J. Fabri
- Demetrios G. Kottaras
- Thomas P. Fecarotta, Jr.
- William J. Kunkle
- Roger G. Fein
- William G. Lacy



Bertina E. Lampkin
 Diane Joan Larsen
 Jeffrey Lawrence
 Marjorie C. Laws
 Casandra Lewis
 Marcella C. Lipinski
 Thomas J. Lipscomb
 Daniel M. Locallo
 Noreen V. Love
 Michele F. Lowrance
 Pamela E. Loza
 Stuart F. Lubin
 Marvin P. Luckman
 Daniel Joseph Lynch
 Thomas V. Lyons II
 William D. Maddux
 William O. Maki
 Marcia Maras
 Jill Cerone Marisie
 LeRoy K. Martin, Jr.
 Patricia Martin
 Mary Anne Mason
 Veronica B. Mathein
 Carol Pearce McCarthy
 James P. McCarthy
 Barbara A. McDonald
 Susan J. McDunn
 Patrick E. McGann
 James M. McGing
 Sheila McGinnis
 Dennis M. McGuire
 Kathleen M. McGury
 Michael B. McHale
 Clare E. McWilliams
 Barbara M. Meyer
 Mary Lane Mikva
 Martha A. Mills
 Raymond W. Mitchell
 Colleen McSweeney Moore
 John J. Moran
 Mary A. Mulhern
 Allen F. Murphy
 James P. Murphy
 Lisa Ruble Murphy
 Patrick T. Murphy
 Thomas W. Murphy
 Timothy P. Murphy
 Joyce Marie Murphy Gorman
 James C. Murray, Jr.
 Marya Nega
 Lewis Nixon
 Donald J. O'Brien, Jr.
 Edward P. O'Brien
 Joan Margaret O'Brien
 Patrick W. O'Brien
 William Timothy O'Brien
 Ann O'Donnell
 Lawrence O'Gara
 James N. O'Hara
 Eileen O'Neill Burke
 William D. O'Neal
 Ramon Ocasio III
 Sandra R. Otaka
 Stuart E. Palmer
 Kathleen M. Pantle
 Sebastian T. Patti
 Sheryl A. Pethers
 Donna Phelps Felton
 Daniel J. Pierce
 Edward N. Pietrucha
 Edmund Ponce de Leon
 Jackie M. Portman
 Joan E. Powell
 Lee Preston
 Aurelia Pucinski

Robert J. Quinn
 Thomas P. Quinn
 Jesse G. Reyes
 James L. Rhodes
 Barbara Riley
 Daniel A. Riley
 James G. Riley
 Ronald C. Riley
 Anita Rivkin-Carothers
 Mary Colleen Roberts
 Mary K. Rochford
 Patrick T. Rogers
 Dominique C. Ross
 Thomas D. Roti
 Circuit Judges, cont.
 Maureen Durkin Roy
 Kristyna C. Ryan
 James Ryan
 Leida Gonzalez Santiago
 Drella Savage
 James M. Schreier
 James A. Shapiro
 Colleen F. Sheehan
 Kevin M. Sheehan
 Diane M. Shelley
 Patrick J. Sherlock
 Henry R. Simmons, Jr.
 Henry M. Singer
 Maura Slattery Boyle
 Irwin J. Solganick
 Cheryl A. Starks
 David P. Sterba
 Victoria A. Stewart
 Paul Stralka
 Jane Louise Stuart
 Michael W. Stuttley
 Daniel J. Sullivan
 Laura M. Sullivan
 Sharon M. Sullivan
 Donald J. Suriano
 Shelley Sutker-Dermer
 Rhoda Sweeney
 Bill Taylor
 Lawrence Terrell
 Amanda Toney
 Sandra Tristano
 John D. Turner, Jr.
 Valarie Turner
 Joseph J. Urso
 James M. Varga
 Raul Vega
 Kenneth J. Wadas
 Carl Anthony Walker
 Debra B. Walker
 Ursula Walowski
 Richard F. Walsh
 John A. Ward
 Maureen Ward Kirby
 Edward Washington, II
 Daniel S. Weber
 Alexander P. White
 Walter Williams
 Camille E. Willis
 Thaddeus L. Wilson
 Charles R. Winkler
 William H. Wise
 Gregory J. Wojkowski
 Lauretta Higgins Wolfson
 E. Kenneth Wright, Jr.
 Frank G. Zelezinski
 Susan F. Zwick

Associate Judges:

Jorge L. Alonso
 Edward A. Antonietti
 David B. Atkins
 Larry Axelrood
 Callie L. Baird
 Patrice Ball-Reed
 Mark J. Ballard
 Helaine L. Berger
 Laura Bertucci Smith
 Samuel J. Betar III
 Adam D. Bourgeois, Jr.
 Yolande M. Bourgeois
 Darron E. Bowden
 William Stewart Boyd
 Stephen Y. Brodhay
 Michael Brown
 Gary L. Brownfield
 Elizabeth M. Budzinski
 Anthony J. Calabrese
 John Thomas Carr
 Frank B. Castiglione
 Cheryl D. Cesario
 Timothy J. Chambers
 Peggy Chiampas
 Joseph M. Claps
 Robert J. Clifford
 Susan M. Coleman
 Thomas J. Condon
 Abishi C. Cunningham
 Lisa R. Curcio
 Noreen M. Daly
 Ronald S. Davis
 Frank DeBoni
 Mathias W. Delort
 Israel A. Deserto
 Sheila King Devane
 Thomas M. Donnelly
 Lauren Gottainer Edidin
 James P. Etchingham
 Maureen P. Feerick
 Fe' Fernandez
 Howard L. Fink
 Brian K. Flaherty
 Lawrence E. Flood
 Lawrence P. Fox
 Thomas V. Gainer, Jr.
 Sheldon C. Garber
 Daniel T. Gillespie
 Pamela Hughes Gillespie
 Susan Fox Gillis
 Gregory R. Ginex
 Steven J. Goebel
 Renee G. Goldfarb
 Joel L. Greenblatt
 Maxwell Griffin, Jr.
 J. B. Grogan
 Gilbert J. Grossi
 R. Morgan Hamilton
 David E. Haracz
 Donald R. Havis
 Thomas J. Hennelly
 Rosemary Higgins
 Arthur F. Hill, Jr.
 Earl B. Hoffenberg
 Ann Houser
 John L. Huff
 Bridget J. Hughes
 Colleen A. Hyland
 John J. Hynes
 Marianne Jackson
 Moira Susan Johnson
 Timothy J. Joyce
 Jordan Kaplan
 James N. Karahalios

Pamela G. Karahalios
 Nancy J. Katz
 Stuart P. Katz
 Lynne Kawamoto
 Carol A. Kiperman
 Randye A. Kogan
 Joan M. Kubala
 Maria Kuriakos Ciesil
 Alfred L. Levinson
 Neil J. Linehan
 James B. Linn
 Patricia M. Logue
 Mark J. Lopez
 Patrick F. Lustig
 Thaddeus S. Machnik
 Jeffrey A. Malak
 Ellen Beth Mandeltort
 Martin E. McDonough
 Brigid Mary McGrath
 Patricia Mendoza
 Mary R. Minella
 Daniel R. Miranda
 Martin P. Moltz
 Thomas R. Mulroy
 Leonard Murray
 Raymond Myles
 Rita M. Novak
 Gregory M. O'Brien
 Thomas J. O'Hara
 James M. Obbish
 Marcia B. Orr
 Donald D. Panarese, Jr.
 Joseph D. Panarese
 Luciano Panici
 Kathleen Ann Panozzo
 Michael R. Panter
 Alfred J. Paul
 Arthur C. Perivolidis
 Angela M. Petrone
 William G. Pileggi
 Dennis J. Porter
 Carolyn Quinn
 Marguerite Quinn
 Jeanne M. Reynolds
 Hyman Riebman
 Elizabeth Loredo Rivera
 Stanley J. Sacks
 Marcus R. Salone
 Naomi H. Schuster
 Joseph M. Sconza
 John J. Scotillo
 Robert E. Senechal, Jr.
 Terrence V. Sharkey
 Darryl B. Simko
 Michele M. Simmons
 Douglas J. Simpson
 David A. Skryd
 Terence B. Smith
 James E. Snyder
 Domenica A. Stephenson
 Richard A. Stevens
 Sanjay T. Tailor
 Sybil C. Thomas
 Elmer J. Tolmaire III
 John D. Tourtelot
 Thomas M. Tucker
 Franklin U. Valderrama
 Rena M. Van Tine
 Gregory P. Vazquez
 Neera Walsh
 John A. Wasilewski
 Lori M. Wolfson
 Leon Wool
 James A. Zafiratos

FIRST CIRCUIT

(Fifth Appellate District)



Massac County Courthouse, Metropolis

Mark H. Clarke, Chief Judge

Williamson County Courthouse

200 W. Jefferson Street

Marion, IL 62959

Circuit Population: 215,045 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Alexander (Cairo)	Pulaski (Mound City)
Jackson (Murphysboro)	Saline (Harrisburg)
Johnson (Vienna)	Union (Jonesboro)
Massac (Metropolis)	Williamson (Marion)
Pope (Golconda)	

SECOND CIRCUIT

(Fifth Appellate District)



Jefferson County Justice Center, Mount Vernon

E. Kyle Vantrease, Chief Judge

Jefferson County Justice Center

911 Casey Avenue

Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Circuit Population: 199,104 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Crawford (Robinson)	Jefferson (Mount Vernon)
Edwards (Albion)	Lawrence (Lawrenceville)
Franklin (Benton)	Richland (Olney)
Gallatin (Shawneetown)	Wabash (Mount Carmel)
Hamilton (McLeansboro)	Wayne (Fairfield)
Hardin (Elizabethtown)	White (Carmi)

THIRD CIRCUIT

(Fifth Appellate District)



Madison County Courthouse, Edwardsville

Ann E. Callis, Chief Judge

Madison County Courthouse

155 North Main, #405

Edwardsville, IL 62025

Circuit Population: 285,450 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Bond (Greenville)
Madison (Edwardsville)

Circuit Judges: Brad K. Bleyer, Mark M. Boie, Ronald R. Eckiss, W. Charles Grace, Joseph Jay Jackson, Joseph M. Leberman, James R. Moore, Walden E. Morris, Phillip G. Palmer, Sr., William G. Schwartz, William J. Thurston, James R. Williamson

Associate Judges: Charles Clayton Cavaness, Kimberly L. Dahlen, Everett D. Kimmel, Christy W. Solverson, John A. Speroni, William H. Wilson

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2008	13,313	2,185	1,554	2008	100,582	94,079
2007	12,792	2,025	1,379	2007	110,857	99,134
2006	11,943	1,855	1,168	2006	93,184	91,672
2005	11,588	1,682	1,125	2005	93,886	85,857
2004	11,667	1,556	1,061	2004	88,331	80,530



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Circuit Judges: Melissa A. Drew, Larry D. Dunn, Thomas J. Foster, David K. Frankland, Terry H. Gamber, Bennie Joe Harrison, Robert M. Hopkins, Paul W. Lamar, David K. Overstreet, Stephen G. Sawyer, Thomas H. Sutton, Thomas Joseph Tedeschi, Barry L. Vaughan, Christopher L. Weber

Associate Judges: Leo T. Desmond, Kimbara Graham Harrell, Robert W. Lewis, Mark Lane Shaner, Mark R. Stanley

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2008	13,395	2,606	1,414	2008	57,971	55,689
2007	12,508	2,526	1,394	2007	57,603	56,373
2006	11,318	2,717	1,303	2006	55,403	51,958
2005	9,518	2,464	1,194	2005	55,062	51,565
2004	10,242	2,383	1,159	2004	49,902	47,132

Circuit Judges: Barbara L. Crowder, David A. Hylla, John Knight, A. Andreas Matoesian, Jr., Charles V. Romani, Jr., Dennis R. Ruth, Daniel J. Stack, Richard L. Tognarelli

Associate Judges: Duane L. Bailey, Thomas William Chapman, Ellar Duff, David Keith Grounds, James Hackett, Clarence W. Harrison II, Janet Rae Heflin, Keith Jensen, Ralph J. Mendelsohn, Nelson F. Metz, Kyle Napp, Stephen A. Stobbs

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Disposed	Filed	Disposed
2008	16,613	2,384	494	2008	111,332	113,282
2007	17,413	2,387	430	2007	116,829	118,488
2006	18,408	2,347	479	2006	111,303	107,999
2005	17,352	2,210	457	2005	103,859	101,030
2004	17,659	2,449	415	2004	96,700	97,250

FOURTH CIRCUIT

(Fifth Appellate District)



Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro

S. Gene Schwarm, Chief Judge

Montgomery County Courthouse

120 N. Main St., #231

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Circuit Population: 241,440 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Christian (Taylorville)

Jasper (Newton)

Clay (Louisville)

Marion (Salem)

Clinton (Carlyle)

Montgomery (Hillsboro)

Effingham (Effingham)

Shelby (Shelbyville)

Fayette (Vandalia)

FIFTH CIRCUIT

(Fourth Appellate District)



Edgar County Courthouse, Paris

Tracy W. Resch, Chief Judge

Clark County Courthouse

501 Archer Avenue

Marshall, IL 62441

Circuit Population: 178,847 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Clark (Marshall)

Coles (Charleston)

Cumberland (Toledo)

Edgar (Paris)

Vermilion (Danville)

SIXTH CIRCUIT

(Fourth Appellate District)



Douglas County Courthouse, Tuscola

John P. Shonkwiler, Chief Judge

Piatt County Courthouse

101 W. Washington Room 306

Monticello, IL 61856

Circuit Population: 365,844 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Champaign (Urbana)

DeWitt (Clinton)

Douglas (Tuscola)

Macon (Decatur)

Moultrie (Sullivan)

Piatt (Monticello)

Circuit Judges: John P. Coady, Daniel E. Hartigan, Patrick J. Hitpas, Michael P. Kiley, Kimberly G. Koester, Kelly D. Long, Kathleen P. Moran, David L. Sauer, Ronald D. Spears, Wm. Robin Todd, Sherri L.E. Tungate

Associate Judges: William J. Becker, James J. Eder, James R. Harvey, John W. McGuire, Michael D. McHaney, Dennis Middendorff, Bradley T. Paisley, James L. Roberts

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Final Caseload	Filed	Disposed
2008	8,583	936	624	2008	66,056	64,372
2007	8,410	874	487	2007	69,371	67,826
2006	9,037	858	448	2006	66,327	65,739
2005	8,804	868	327	2005	67,484	66,111
2004	8,588	866	309	2004	65,411	63,894



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Circuit Judges: Claudia J. Anderson, Michael D. Clary, Craig H. DeArmond, Millard Scott Everhart, Nancy S. Fahey, Steven L. Garst, James R. Glenn, Gary W. Jacobs, Teresa K. Righter, Richard E. Scott, Mitchell K. Shick

Associate Judges: James K. Borbely, David W. Lewis, Brien J. O' Brien, Joseph P. Skowronski, Jr., Gordon R. Stipp

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Final Caseload	Filed	Disposed
2008	20,724	1,911	1,127	2008	47,078	44,617
2007	21,443	2,131	1,029	2007	48,325	44,557
2006	21,222	1,972	1,260	2006	46,823	45,305
2005	22,482	1,899	1,174	2005	48,098	44,472
2004	21,552	1,910	1,157	2004	49,761	45,956

Circuit Judges: Arnold F. Blockman, Garry W. Bryan, Michael G. Carroll, Harry E. Clem, Thomas J. Difanis, Dan L. Flannell, Jeffrey B. Ford, Michael Q. Jones, Heidi Ladd, Katherine M. McCarthy, Theodore E. Paine, Albert G. Webber, Lisa Holder White

Associate Judges: Robert C. Bollinger, Holly F. Clemons, James Coryell, Scott B. Diamond, Chris E. Freese, John R. Kennedy, Richard P. Klaus, Charles McRae Leonhard, Thomas E. Little, Brian L. McPheters, Timothy J. Steadman

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Final Caseload	Filed	Disposed
2008	27,964	3,482	2,375	2008	99,198	92,739
2007	26,718	3,230	1,892	2007	103,939	102,787
2006	23,741	3,103	1,191	2006	98,064	101,650
2005	28,089	3,237	1,055	2005	97,554	93,597
2004	27,757	3,091	1,063	2004	98,382	96,579

SEVENTH CIRCUIT

(Fourth Appellate District)



Morgan County Courthouse, Jacksonville

Patrick W. Kelley, Chief Judge

Sangamon County Complex

200 S. 9th Street

Springfield, IL 62701

Circuit Population: 319,189 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Greene (Carrollton)

Jersey (Jerseyville)

Macoupin (Carlinville)

Morgan (Jacksonville)

Sangamon (Springfield)

Scott (Winchester)

EIGHTH CIRCUIT

(Fourth Appellate District)



Schuyler County Courthouse, Rushville

Thomas L. Brownfield, Chief Judge

Adams County Courthouse

521 Vermont Street

Quincy, IL 62301

Circuit Population: 143,820 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Adams (Quincy)

Mason (Havana)

Brown (Mount Sterling)

Menard (Petersburg)

Calhoun (Hardin)

Pike (Pittsfield)

Cass (Virginia)

Schuyler (Rushville)

NINTH CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Knox County Courthouse, Galesburg

Stephen C. Mathers, Chief Judge

130 S. Lafayette Street, Suite 30

Macomb, IL 61455

Circuit Population: 164,518 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Fulton (Lewistown)

Hancock (Carthage)

Henderson (Oquawka)

Knox (Galesburg)

McDonough (Macomb)

Warren (Monmouth)

Circuit Judges: Lois A. Bell, John W. Belz, Peter C. Cavanagh, James W. Day, Kenneth R. Deihl, Leslie J. Graves, Patrick J. Londrigan, Richard T. Mitchell, Eric S. Pistorius, Leo J. Zappa, Jr.

Associate Judges: Rudolph M. Braud, Jr., Diane L. Brunton, John E. Childress, Charles J. Gramlich, Robert T. Hall, Roger W. Holmes, John A. Mehlick, Steven H. Nardulli, Tim P. Olson, Esteban F. Sanchez

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Filed	Filed	Disposed
2008	34,309	1,988	3,169	2008	108,320	110,121
2007	31,291	1,807	3,205	2007	106,032	114,830
2006	35,069	1,682	2,907	2006	95,082	103,861
2005	37,633	1,542	2,786	2005	103,026	106,274
2004	35,635	1,685	3,502	2004	101,613	104,966



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Circuit Judges: Mark A. Drummond, Richard D. Greenlief, Bobby G. Hardwick, Diane M. Lagoski, William O. Mays, Jr., Alesia A. McMillen, Michael R. Roseberry, Mark A. Schuering, Scott H. Walden

Associate Judges: Scott J. Butler, Thomas J. Ortbal, Chet W. Vahle, John C. Wooleyhan

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Filed	Filed	Disposed
2008	4,783	936	461	2008	42,475	42,016
2007	4,836	942	452	2007	45,332	44,906
2006	5,634	905	279	2006	45,413	45,625
2005	6,248	865	213	2005	47,625	45,451
2004	6,004	759	166	2004	40,039	39,374

Circuit Judges: Edward R. Danner, William C. Davis, William D. Henderson, Paul L. Mangieri, Gregory K. McClintock, Scott Shippellett, James B. Stewart, David F. Stoverink, David L. Vancil, Jr.

Associate Judges: Steven R. Bordner, John R. Clerkin, Richard H. Gambrell, Dwayne I. Morrison, Patricia A. Walton

Total Cases Filed	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Total Cases Filed	Filed	Disposed
2008	8,701	1,364	256	2008	40,720	39,517
2007	9,115	1,299	251	2007	41,749	41,581
2006	9,392	1,201	240	2006	39,013	39,140
2005	9,143	1,328	293	2005	39,666	39,033
2004	8,878	1,192	250	2004	40,776	40,514

TENTH CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Marshall County Courthouse, Lacon

Stuart P. Borden, Chief Judge

Peoria County Courthouse

324 Main Street, #215

Peoria, IL 61602

Circuit Population: 339,203 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Marshall (Lacon)

Peoria (Peoria)

Putnam (Hennepin)

Stark (Toulon)

Tazewell (Pekin)

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

(Fourth Appellate District)



McLean County Law & Justice Center, Bloomington

Elizabeth A. Robb, Chief Judge

McLean County Law & Justice Center

104 W. Front Street, Room 507

Bloomington, IL 61701

Circuit Population: 284,616 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Ford (Paxton)

Livingston (Pontiac)

Logan (Lincoln)

McLean (Bloomington)

Woodford (Eureka)

TWELFTH CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Will County Courthouse, Joliet

Gerald R. Kinney, Chief Judge

Will County Courthouse

14 W. Jefferson, #439

Joliet, IL 60432

Circuit Population: 673,586 (2007 est.)

County (seat):

Will (Joliet)

Circuit Judges: John A. Barra, Michael E. Brandt, Kevin R. Galley, Paul P. Gilfillan, Richard E. Grawey, Stephen A. Kouri, James E. Shadid, Scott A. Shore, Joe R. Vespa

Associate Judges: Glenn H. Collier, David J. Dubicki, Chris L. Fredericksen, Katherine Gorman Hubler, Kim L. Kelley, Timothy M. Lucas, Jerelyn D. Maher, Richard D. McCoy, Albert L. Purham, Jr., Rebecca R. Steenrod

Handling Cases	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	21,231	1,496	2,157
2007	20,424	1,440	2,614
2006	20,906	1,561	2,611
2005	20,161	1,560	2,582
2004	18,793	1,458	3,051

Handling Cases	Filed	Disposed
2008	113,511	111,507
2007	117,238	118,471
2006	109,580	109,244
2005	106,672	106,391
2004	102,834	107,437

Circuit Judges: Jennifer H. Bauknecht, Scott D. Drazewski, Kevin P. Fitzgerald, Robert L. Freitag, Thomas M. Harris, Jr., John B. Huschen, Stephen R. Pacey, G. Michael Prall, Charles G. Reynard, James E. Souk

Associate Judges: David W. Butler, John Casey Costigan, Charles M. Feeney III, Mark A. Fellheimer, Thomas W. Funk, Rebecca Simmons Foley, Lee Ann S. Hill, Paul G. Lawrence, Robert M. Travers

Handling Cases	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	9,780	1,396	1,674
2007	9,364	1,370	1,423
2006	8,963	1,281	1,158
2005	8,374	1,331	968
2004	7,730	1,284	764

Handling Cases	Filed	Disposed
2008	89,700	98,019
2007	93,061	100,527
2006	93,957	93,019
2005	87,888	89,665
2004	81,819	86,651

Circuit Judges: James Jeffrey Allen, Amy M. Bertani-Tomczak, Paula A. Gomora, Sara-Marie F. Jones, Susan T. O'Leary, Edward F. Petka, Carla J. Alessio Policandriotes, Daniel J. Rozak, Richard C. Schoenstedt, Richard J. Siegel, Stephen D. White

Associate Judges: Dinah J. Archambeault, Robert J. Baron, Bennett J. Braun, Robert P. Brumund, Edward A. Burmila, Jr., James E. Egan, James E. Garrison, Lawrence C. Gray, Robert P. Livas, Rick A. Mason, Raymond A. Nash, Barbara N. Petrungaro, Joseph C. Polito, Michael J. Powers, Marzell L. Richardson, Jr., Marilee Viola

Handling Cases	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	22,548	2,966	1,363
2007	20,753	2,562	1,299
2006	19,055	2,795	1,346
2005	17,073	2,369	1,353
2004	18,008	2,257	1,219

Handling Cases	Filed	Disposed
2008	205,396	212,240
2007	206,645	211,433
2006	195,536	196,337
2005	188,475	209,082
2004	167,579	171,009



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THIRTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Bureau County Courthouse, Princeton

James A. Lanuti, Chief Judge

LaSalle County Courthouse

119 W. Madison, #204

Ottawa, IL 61350

Circuit Population: 194,796 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Bureau (Princeton)

Grundy (Morris)

LaSalle (Ottawa)

FOURTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Mercer County Courthouse, Aledo

Jeffrey W. O'Connor, Chief Judge

Rock Island County Courthouse

210 15th Street, #408

Rock Island, IL 61201

Circuit Population: 272,671 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Henry (Cambridge)

Mercer (Aledo)

Rock Island (Rock Island)

Whiteside (Morrison)

FIFTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



Carroll County Courthouse, Mount Carroll

Michael Mallon, Chief Judge

Ogle County Courthouse

106 S. Fifth Street, #306A

Oregon, IL 61061

Circuit Population: 175,266 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Carroll (Mount Carroll)

Jo Daviess (Galena)

Lee (Dixon)

Ogle (Oregon)

Stephenson (Freeport)

Circuit Judges: Marc Bernabei, Eugene P. Daugherty, Joseph P. Hettel, Robert C. Marsaglia, Cynthia M. Raccuglia, Howard C. Ryan, Jr.

Associate Judges: William P. Balestri, James L. Brusatte, Daniel J. Bute, Cornelius J. Hollerich, Lance R. Peterson

	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		Filed	Disposed
2008	5,510	578	366	2008	53,705	53,775
2007	5,336	571	344	2007	57,713	58,525
2006	5,201	490	306	2006	58,133	57,913
2005	4,916	458	242	2005	57,426	55,828
2004	4,706	438	236	2004	54,682	56,734



Circuit Judges: Walter D. Braud, James G. Conway, Jr., Ted Hamer, John L. Hauptman, Lori R. Lefstein, John R. McClean, Jr., F. Michael Meersman, Stanley B. Steines, Charles H. Stengel, Mark A. VandeWiele

Associate Judges: Michael R. Albert, John L. Bell, Thomas C. Berglund, Alan G. Blackwood, Raymond J. Conklin, Frank R. Fuhr, Dana R. McReynolds, James J. Mesich, Carol M. Pentuic, Richard A. Zimmer

	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		Filed	Disposed
2008	14,568	1,728	1,559	2008	79,682	77,174
2007	13,780	1,626	1,382	2007	82,379	80,076
2006	15,091	1,548	1,125	2006	82,504	78,470
2005	14,007	1,362	902	2005	79,127	78,509
2004	13,413	1,341	839	2004	82,520	82,246

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Circuit Judges: Michael Paul Bald, Daniel A. Fish, Val Gunnarsson, Ronald M. Jacobson, William A. Kelly, Stephen C. Pemberton, Theresa L. Ursin

Associate Judges: Jacquelyn D. Ackert, Charles T. Beckman, Robert T. Hanson, James M. Hauser, David L. Jeffrey, John F. Joyce, Kathleen O. Kauffmann, Kevin J. Ward

	Civil	Felony	Juvenile		Filed	Disposed
2008	4,644	808	825	2008	50,647	48,937
2007	4,519	896	739	2007	49,817	49,240
2006	4,519	786	503	2006	48,224	46,453
2005	4,641	712	420	2005	47,002	47,064
2004	4,800	780	443	2004	50,347	48,862

Circuit Courts

SIXTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



Kane County Judicial Center, Geneva

F. Keith Brown, Chief Judge
Kane County Judicial Center
37W777 Rte. 38, #400A
St. Charles, IL 60175
Circuit Population: 701,568 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

DeKalb (Sycamore)
Kane (Geneva)
Kendall (Yorkville)

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SEVENTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



Boone County Courthouse, Belvidere

Janet R. Holmgren, Chief Judge
Winnebago County Courthouse
400 West State Street, #320
Rockford, IL 61101
Circuit Population: 352,290 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Boone (Belvidere)
Winnebago (Rockford)



Circuit Judges: Judith M. Brawka, Michael J. Colwell, John W. Countryman, James Donnelly, Donald J. Fabian, Joseph M. Grady, Donald C. Hudson, Kurt Klein, Thomas E. Mueller, James R. Murphy, John A. Noverini, Timothy Q. Sheldon, Robert B. Spence, Robbin J. Stuckert, Grant S. Wegner

Associate Judges: Allen M. Anderson, Linda Abrahamson Baurle, William P. Brady, Franklin D. Brewe, Kevin T. Busch, Alan W. Cargerma, Susan Clancy Boles, Thomas J. Gallagher, James C. Hallock, Robert L. Janes, Mararie J. Kostelný, Timothy J. McCann, Robert J. Morrow, Edward C. Schreiber, Mary Karen Simpson, Thomas J. Stanfa, Stephen Sullivan, William H. Weir, Leonard J. Wojtecki

Year	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Year	Filed	Disposed
2008	25,245	4,650	1,901	2008	209,009	209,569
2007	22,111	4,601	2,064	2007	206,236	203,522
2006	19,315	4,219	1,938	2006	214,977	200,967
2005	12,639	4,029	2,296	2005	199,615	201,564
2004	11,879	6,232	2,827	2004	184,973	190,335

Circuit Judges: Clarke C. Barnes, Rosemary Collins, Eugene G. Doherty, Lisa R. Fabiano, Gwyn Gulley, Joseph G. McGraw, Ronald L. Pirrello, J. Edward Prochaska, Ronald J. White

Associate Judges: Joseph J. Bruce, Fernando L. Engelsma, Patrick L. Heaslip, John S. Lowry, Richard A. Lucus, Steven L. Nordquist, Gary Pumilia, R. Craig Sahlstrom, Brian Dean Shore, John R. Truitt, Steven G. Vecchio, K. Patrick Yarbrough, John H. Young

Year	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Year	Filed	Disposed
2008	22,641	4,879	3,331	2008	124,614	123,457
2007	22,051	4,997	3,009	2007	126,366	125,067
2006	19,958	5,067	3,323	2006	121,751	118,143
2005	18,180	4,106	3,284	2005	121,539	118,776
2004	17,260	4,226	3,172	2004	124,542	123,506

EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



DuPage County Courthouse, Wheaton

Stephen J. Culliton, Chief Judge
DuPage County Courthouse
505 N. County Farm Rd., #2015
Wheaton, IL 60187
Circuit Population: 929,192 (2007 est.)

County (seat):
DuPage (Wheaton)

NINETEENTH CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



Lake County Courthouse, Waukegan

James K. Booras, Chief Judge
Lake County Courthouse
18 N. County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085
Circuit Population: 710,241 (2007 est.)

County (seat):
Lake (Waukegan)

* Effective December 4, 2006, Public Act 93-0541 created a new 22nd Judicial Circuit separating the counties of McHenry and Lake into single county circuits. For trend reporting purposes, the five year trend reports provided for the 19th and 22nd Judicial Circuit charts reflect individual county totals for Lake County (19th Judicial Circuit) and McHenry County (22nd Judicial Circuit).



Circuit Judges: Robert J. Anderson, George J. Bakalis, Kathryn E. Creswell, Peter J. Dockery, John T. Elsner, Rodney W. Equi, Blanche Hill Fawell, John Kinsella, Kenneth Popejoy, Thomas J. Riggs, Richard M. Stock, Perry R. Thompson, Hollis L. Webster, Bonnie M. Wheaton

Associate Judges: Kenneth A. Abraham, C. Stanley Austin, Joseph S. Bongiorno, Liam C. Brennan, Neal W. Cerne, Linda E. Davenport, John W. Demling, Brian J. Diamond, Thomas C. Dudgeon, Mark W. Dwyer, William I. Ferguson, Dorothy F. French, Paul M. Fullerton, Daniel P. Guerin, Bruce R. Kelsey, Robert G. Kleeman, James J. Konetski, Patrick J. Leston, Timothy J. McJoynt, Brian R. McKillip, Jane Hird Mitton, Mary E. O'Connor, Peter W. Ostling, Cary B. Pierce, Richard D. Russo, Elizabeth W. Sexton, Terence M. Sheen, George J. Sotos, Ronald D. Sutter, Karen M. Wilson

Billing Calendar Year	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	16,367	2,030	1,286
2007	15,612	2,135	994
2006	14,041	2,314	801
2005	13,000	2,284	700
2004	13,366	2,371	566

Billing Calendar Year	Filed	Disposed
2008	328,207	346,736
2007	318,126	347,035
2006	320,626	340,619
2005	314,643	329,863
2004	317,746	337,745

Circuit Judges: Valerie Boettle Ceckowski, Fred Foreman, David M. Hall, Raymond J. McKoski, Margaret J. Mullen, Jorge L. Ortiz, John T. Phillips, Victoria A. Rossetti, Christopher C. Starck, Jay W. Ukena, Diane E. Winter

Associate Judges: Luis A. Berones, Michael B. Betar, George Bridges, David P. Brodsky, Raymond D. Collins, Wallace B. Dunn, Michael J. Fusz, Mitchell L. Hoffman, Brian P. Hughes, Charles D. Johnson, Patrick N. Lawler, Sarah P. Lessman, Victoria L. Martin, Veronica M. O'Malley, Theodore S. Potkonjak, Helen Rozenberg, Thomas M. Schippers, Daniel B. Shanes, George D. Strickland, Christopher Stride, Nancy S. Waites, Joseph R. Waldeck

Billing Calendar Year	Civil	Felony	Juvenile
2008	14,936	2,483	507
2007	14,192	2,233	468
2006	11,362	2,176	487
2005	10,368	2,039	486
2004	10,204	1,675	470

Billing Calendar Year	Filed	Disposed
2008	241,189	250,134
2007	245,681	256,329
2006	253,319	265,786
2005	256,698	270,154
2004	254,997	263,685

TWENTIETH CIRCUIT

(Fifth Appellate District)



Perry County Courthouse, Pinckneyville

C. John Baricevic, Chief Judge

County Building

10 Public Square

Belleville, IL 62220

Circuit Population: 363,813 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Monroe (Waterloo)

Perry (Pinckneyville)

Randolph (Chester)

St. Clair (Belleville)

Washington (Nashville)

TWENTY-FIRST CIRCUIT

(Third Appellate District)



Kankakee County Courthouse, Kankakee

Kathy Bradshaw Elliott, Chief Judge

Kankakee County Courthouse

450 East Court Street

Kankakee, IL 60901

Circuit Population: 140,999 (2007 est.)

Counties (seats):

Iroquois (Watseka)

Kankakee (Kankakee)

TWENTY-SECOND CIRCUIT

(Second Appellate District)



McHenry County Government Center, Woodstock

Michael J. Sullivan, Chief Judge

McHenry County Government Center

2200 N. Seminary Ave.

Woodstock, IL 60098

Circuit Population: 315,943 (2007 est.)

County (seat):

McHenry (Woodstock)

* Effective December 4, 2006, Public Act 93-0541 created a new 22nd Judicial Circuit separating the counties of McHenry and Lake into single county circuits. For trend reporting purposes, the five year trend reports provided for the 19th and 22nd Judicial Circuit charts reflect individual county totals for Lake County (19th Judicial Circuit) and McHenry County (22nd Judicial Circuit).

Circuit Judges: James W. Campanella, Lloyd A. Cueto, Dennis B. Doyle, Annette A. Eckert, Jan V. Fiss, Dennis Hatch, Robert P. LeChien, Michael J. O'Malley, William A. Schuwerk, Jr., Milton S. Wharton, Patrick M. Young

Associate Judges: Richard A. Aguirre, Brian A. Babka, Walter C. Brandon, Jr., Richard Brown, Laninya Cason, Michael N. Cook, Ellen A. Dauber, Andrew J. Gleeson, Randall W. Kelley, Vincent J. Lopinot, Alexis Otis-Lewis, Stephen R. Rice, Heinz M. Rudolf

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Filed	Disposed
2008	16,181	1,407	278	2008	141,279
2007	17,949	1,435	319	2007	141,300
2006	16,997	1,642	300	2006	138,303
2005	17,050	1,620	294	2005	136,404
2004	15,904	1,925	336	2004	129,766

Circuit Judges: Adrienne W. Albrecht, Clark E. Erickson, Michael J. Kick, Gordon Lee Lustfeldt, Susan Sumner Tungate, Kendall O. Wenzelman

Associate Judges: James B. Kinzer, Michael D. Kramer, William O. Schmidt, J. Scott Swaim

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Filed	Disposed
2008	16,710	1,012	754	2008	44,942
2007	16,520	869	851	2007	49,975
2006	15,795	842	811	2006	48,072
2005	14,957	847	776	2005	45,903
2004	16,233	851	809	2004	47,879

Circuit Judges: Michael T. Caldwell, Michael J. Chmiel, Joseph P. Condon, Maureen P. McIntyre, Sharon Prather, Charles P. Weech

Associate Judges: Robert Beaderstadt, John D. Bolger, James S. Cowlin, Michael W. Feetterer, Gordon E. Graham, Suzanne C. Mangiameli, Thomas A. Meyer, Robert A. Wilbrandt, Jr., Gerald M. Zopp, Jr.

Pending Caseload	Civil	Felony	Juvenile	Filed	Disposed
2008	5,315	1,208	575	2008	103,144
2007	5,137	1,069	607	2007	105,492
2006	4,460	862	682	2006	96,765
2005	4,039	677	610	2005	93,320
2004	3,764	586	541	2004	89,326



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

The Executive Office is comprised of the Administrative Director, the Executive Assistant to the Director, the Senior Attorney, supporting attorney(s), and administrative staff. Through the Administrative Director, the Executive Office is responsible for coordinating and guiding the operations of each of the divisions of the Administrative Office and serves as a central resource for a multitude of operational issues which impact the administration of the judicial branch.



The **Executive Office**, on behalf of the Supreme Court, manages and coordinates liaison activities with executive and legislative branch officials and agencies. One of the major duties performed for the Supreme Court is the consideration of non-routine administrative matters, which are presented during each of the Court's terms. The Administrative Director, in collaboration with the Chief Justice, prepares and presents agenda issues to the Court for discussion and deliberation to assure that the business of the judicial branch is thoroughly managed. Agenda items approved by the Court for action are then implemented by the Director through the Executive Office.

The Executive Office plans and directs Administrative office staff support for the Supreme Court Committees and the Committees of the Illinois Judicial Conference. The study and recommendations which flow from each Judicial Conference Committee to the Supreme Court greatly impact matters related to improving the administration of justice in Illinois. Consistent with the Court's reliance on the work of the Judicial Conference committees to examine and make recommendations on matters of judicial branch policy and practice, the Court again

assigned specific tasks and projects to each Judicial Conference Committee in 2008. The Administrative Director assigns senior level staff with subject matter expertise to serve as liaisons to assist each committee in their assignments.

In its administration of Supreme Court Rule 39 (Appointment of Associate Judges), the Executive Office conducted twenty-five associate judge elections in fourteen of Illinois' twenty-three judicial circuits during 2008. The Executive Office also processes applications filed under Supreme Court Rule 295, which authorizes the assignment of associate judges to hear felony matters. Additionally, applications for licenses issued to those law students seeking to provide limited legal representation under Supreme Court Rule 711 are processed through the Executive Office.

The Executive Office's activities and responsibilities also include securing and tracking legal representation through the Office of the Attorney General for members of the judicial branch named in a case or controversy arising out of the performance of their official duties. Executive Office staff negotiates, prepares, and manages office leases and contracts for the Supreme and Appellate Courts, mandatory arbitration programs, and the Administrative

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Director
Michael Tardy, Executive Assistant
Marcia Meis, Senior Attorney

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE DIVISIONS

Administrative Services Division - Kathleen L. O'Hara, Assistant Director

Court Services Division - James W. Redlich, Assistant Director

Judicial Education Division - Michael Tardy, Executive Assistant

Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS) - Skip Robertson, Assistant Director

Probation Services Division - Cheryl Barrett, Assistant Director

Administrative Office - Chicago

222 North LaSalle Street, 13th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 793-3250
FAX: (312) 793-1335

Administrative Office - Springfield

3101 Old Jacksonville Road
Springfield, IL 62704
(217) 558-4490
FAX: (217) 785-3905

Office. All vendor contracts generated by the Administrative Office for use in securing goods and services are reviewed and approved by the Executive Office. Written summaries of recent Supreme Court opinions are prepared by legal staff within the Executive Office for distribution to all Illinois Judges. Additionally, the Executive Office serves as secretary to the Illinois Courts Commission, managing the filing and preservation of Commission records, distributing the Official Illinois Courts Commission Reports, and performing all other duties typically executed by a clerk of a court of record. Executive Office Staff also prepares and executes grants which provide for programming funded through the Lawyers' Assistance Program Act.

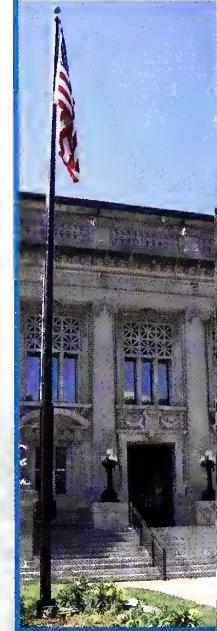
The **Administrative Services Division** provides technical and support services to the judicial branch through its five operational units; the Payroll/Benefits Unit, the Accounting Unit, the Budget Unit, the Human Resources Unit, and Mail/Reprographics Unit.

The Payroll/Benefits Unit maintains all payroll

records for current state-paid judicial branch employees, as well as records for all previous employees. Staff of this unit work with the Office of the Comptroller to produce both monthly and semi-monthly payrolls for over 1,500 current judicial branch employees. Staff also coordinate the state's varied employee benefit programs, including health, dental, and life insurance.

The Accounting Unit consistently and accurately processes all payment vouchers for the Supreme Court, the Appellate Court, the state-paid functions of the circuit courts, and the Administrative Office. The Accounting Unit also maintains all financial records for the expenditure of resources appropriated by the General Assembly. Staff of this unit work closely with staff of the Comptroller's Office to reconcile payment information and provide that office any additional information needed to facilitate the payment of judicial branch bills.

In addition to overseeing procurement and inventory controls, the Budget Unit produces highly technical and analytical financial reports used by judicial branch managers and the



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Administrative Director. These reports track daily spending, contractual obligations, and projected needs. This unit also prepares the comprehensive documentation utilized in the development and implementation of the annual judicial branch budget. The Budget Unit monitors the number of authorized judicial and non-judicial positions within the judicial branch and coordinates the flow of information among the Secretary of State's Office and the State Board of Elections regarding judicial election.

The Human Resource Unit provides personnel services to judicial branch employees and managers. Staff within this unit maintain comprehensive attendance records for all judicial branch personnel covered by the Supreme Court's Leave of Absence Policies and assist individuals with questions regarding the associated paid and unpaid leaves of absences. Staff interact with CMS personnel to coordinate the state's workers' compensation program. The Human Resource Unit also works with judicial branch employees and managers in administering the judicial branch's classification and compensation plan. When requested, staff of this unit also assist judicial branch managers in their recruitment and selection process, including the placement of advertisements, the dissemination, collection, and review of applications, administering proficiency testing, and securing reference checks. The Mail/Reprographics Unit oversees the distribution of mail and parcel services for the Administrative Office. Acting as its own print shop, staff of this unit review materials presented for copying and determine the best method to replicate the originals. In many instances, the Unit produces print quality manuals, brochures, and publications.

The Court Services Division is organized into four working groups (the Child Welfare Unit; the Program Unit; the Recordkeeping and Technology Unit; and the Labor Unit) and is involved in a diverse and wide range of activities and projects affecting judges, circuit clerks, and other components of the judicial branch of government. The Division is responsible for staffing a variety of Supreme Court committees, Judicial Conference committees, and the Conference of Chief Circuit Judges. It produces the Judicial Conference Report, the Court-Annexed Mandatory Arbitration Report and this annual report. The Division also serves as the primary liaison for addressing concerns and initiatives relating to circuit court clerks. It assists with local labor negotiations that impact the judicial branch. In addition, a number of specific-topic programs, such as management of the Capital Litigation Trial Bar (CLTB) and maintenance of judicial branch long-range capital development plans are administered by the Division. Child protection projects, including management of related federal grants, are also one of its responsibilities. The Division provides legislative support services to the Supreme Court, and prepares legislative summaries for Chief Circuit Judges and circuit clerks.

In coordination with the Division, and pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 58, voluntary judicial performance evaluations were completed in 2008 in the Second, Fourth, Eighth and Twenty-Second Judicial Circuits. In 2008, Court Services staff processed 76 applications for membership into the CLTB and processed 14 applications for certification as an approved provider of programs for mandated CLTB Continuing Legal Education Training Programs. As of December 31, 2008, there were 828 members in the CLTB. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 714(g), the Division processed the removal of 20 members from the active roster of the CLTB for failure to comply with continuing education requirements. The Division assisted in the reinstatement of 27 members to the active roster of the CLTB pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 714(i). In 2008, staff coordinated 17 impartial medical examination orders pursuant to Illinois Supreme Court Rule 215(d). The Labor

Unit represented judicial employers in negotiating approximately 35 collective bargaining agreements and in advising judges and circuit clerks on matters of contract interpretation and administration.

The Division is responsible for a number of tasks and projects associated with child protection issues in the Illinois courts, including the management of the federally-funded statewide Court Improvement Program (CIP). There are currently three grant awards (general, data and training) in which the staff manages all technical, fiscal and program components. In the summer of 2008, CIP funds were used to conduct a Data Collection Analysis Needs Assessment in collaboration with the National Center for State Courts to examine the current status of the trial courts' information technology and their data collection practices with respect to juvenile abuse and neglect cases. Findings and recommendations from the assessment will guide future CIP data and technology efforts.

The Division provides a wide range of guidance and technical support services to circuit clerks and their staff. Division staff worked with the Oversight Board for Continuing Education of the Illinois Association of Court Clerks to develop educational programs for circuit clerks and their staff, and coordination of the New Clerk Mentor Program. Specific and detailed assistance was provided to the 23 circuit clerks who were newly elected in 2008. Division staff continues to prepare for a New Clerk Orientation planned for January 13 - 15, 2009. An update of the *Manual on Fines and Fees* is being developed and will be distributed electronically to Chief Circuit Judges and Circuit Clerks upon completion in 2009. The Division coordinated activities relating to implementation of the Supreme Court approved Electronic Business Initiative, providing a framework for specific statewide e-Business services in the trial courts. In 2008, Cook and DuPage Counties were approved to accept electronic pleas of guilty as stated in the Standards for accepting pleas of guilty in minor traffic and conservation offenses pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 529. Madison County was authorized to begin an electronic filing pilot program in Law and Arbitration cases in October 2008. The AOIC provided merged jury lists to 97

counties in 2008, and petit juror and grand jury handbooks were supplied to counties as needed. The Division continues to manage the Offense Code Table (OFT) to identify offenses reported through the Automated Disposition Reporting (ADR) Program. A complete, updated version of the OFT was issued in July 2008, and is currently used for ADR reporting in 83 Illinois counties.

The **Judicial Education Division** is responsible for the development of judicial education resources to ensure that Illinois judges can acquire the knowledge and skills they need to be effective jurists. In that regard, the Division provides guidance and administrative support to the Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Education, the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases, the Judicial Mentor Committee and to other committees and groups convened for the purpose of developing judicial education resources.

In conjunction with the Supreme Court's adoption of continuing judicial education requirements for all Appellate, Circuit and Associate Judges, the Division coordinated development of the new 30-hour curriculum that was presented to all Illinois judges in 2008 at the Judicial Education Conference. Over 950 judges attended the two sessions of Education Conference 2008 which offered training in four core tracks: Professionalism and Ethics; Civil Law and Procedure; Criminal Law and Procedure; and, Family Law and Procedure. Six "judicial benchbooks" were prepared to address distinct areas of Illinois law, with five having been published and distributed. Over 2,700 copies of the Domestic Violence, Civil Law and Procedure, DUI/Traffic, Evidence, and Family Law and



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Procedures Benchbooks were distributed either in notebook or digital format. Pending completion in 2009 is the Criminal Law and Procedures Benchbook. The Division, in coordination with the Committee on Education, also initiated planning for the 2009 biennial Advanced Judicial Academy entitled "Judicial Decision-Making in a Democratic Society." The Division oversaw the presentation of the annual seminar series which included two regional (two day) seminars, one mini-seminar (one day), and one specialized DUI/Traffic program. Also in 2008, the Division presented the annual New Judge Seminar and conducted a Faculty Development Workshop for judges serving as faculty for Judicial Conference programs. In addition to its work with the Committee on Education, the Division assists the Supreme Court Committee on Capital Cases in presenting two Capital Cases Seminars each year, in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 43, for Illinois judges hearing death penalty cases.

The Division also staffs the Judicial Mentor Committee and administers the Judicial Mentoring Program, which provides an experienced judicial mentor for all new Illinois judges. Lastly, the Division collaborates with other Divisions of the Administrative Office to develop customized judicial education programs on such topics as effective child protection practices, at risk youth and families in the justice system and evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism of adult and juvenile offenders.

The **Judicial Management Information Services (JMIS)** division is one of five divisions within the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). The JMIS division is charged with providing technology to the offices and staff of the Illinois Supreme and Appellate Courts, Supreme Court supporting units and all divisions within the AOIC. The JMIS division consists of four groups organized to respond to the technology initiatives assigned by the Administrative Director.

The Hardware/Software group manages the Courts' local and wide area networks, servers, personal computers and peripherals, computer security policies, and productivity software. The Hardware/Software group is also responsible for the installation and support of the state-provided digital recording systems in the supreme, appellate and trial courts. The Internet Services group is responsible for the design and upkeep of the Court's website (www.state.il.us/court) as well as the use of Internet technologies that enhance the exchange of information throughout the judiciary.

The User Services group staffs JMIS' Help Desk, is responsible for database administration, provides telecommunication services, and manages the inventory and asset tracking of IT equipment. The Applications Group designs and supports more than twenty enterprise database applications written using an Oracle or Progress database system.

In 2008, the Court continued its support of digital recording systems in the judiciary. At the Court's direction, audio and video recordings of the Supreme Court oral arguments are posted on the Court's website. The installation and support of digital audio recording systems in Illinois' trial court continued and expanded into the appellate district courtrooms.

At the direction of the Administrative Director, the AOIC continued its work on planning and implementation of the electronic business initiative to provide statewide electronic filing, electronic pleas of guilty for traffic citations, and a central repository of probation and trial court case information. Using information received from a target assessment study, an infrastructure prototype, and discussions with technology-specific vendors, the e-Business initiative is expected to progress with the implementation of a database platform and infrastructure standards to govern the Court's e-Business model.

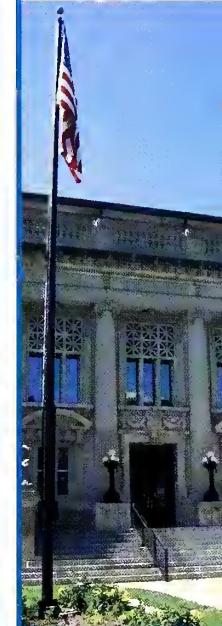
The **Probation Services Division** provides services to Chief Judges and their probation staff in all circuits. The Probation and Probation Officer's Act, at 730 ILCS 110/15 (1) states: "The Supreme Court of Illinois may establish a Division of Probation Services whose purpose shall be the development, establishment, promulgation, and enforcement of uniform standards for probation services in the State, and otherwise carry out the intent of this Act." Consistent with its statutory responsibility, the mission of the Probation Division is to improve the quality, effectiveness, and professionalism of probation and detention services in Illinois. In carrying out this mission, the Division's training, monitoring, standards-setting, and technical assistance activities extend to all aspects of the administration and operation of Illinois probation and court services departments. These activities include the administration of state reimbursement to counties for probation and detention services, review and approval of annual probation plans submitted by each department, collection and analysis of statewide probation data, administration of probation employment and compensation standards, development

and implementation of effective correctional intervention strategies for offenders on probation, monitoring and evaluation of probation programs and operations, administration of the interstate compact for probationers transferring into and out of the state, design and delivery of basic and advanced training for probation and detention personnel, and provision of technical assistance and staff support to circuit courts to improve the administration and operation of probation services in Illinois.

In 2008, the Division continued to focus on the implementation of Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) and the development of an infrastructure to sustain effective strategies and interventions to change offender behavior and improve community safety. Follow-up training and technical assistance on both juvenile and adult offender risk assessment and effective case management strategies was provided in circuits across the state. Division staff worked in concert with circuit probation staff on the planning and delivery of regional training events to meet individual department needs. Quality assurance and outcome measures continued to be Division priorities. In 2008 the Division trained probation and court service department personnel on intermediate measures to obtain data on the implementation of effective practices, such as the percentage of probationers completing court ordered treatment. Division staff also assisted departments in the review and analysis of local system data related to case processing and outcomes.

The Division sponsored over 100 training events in 2008 that served over 3500 participants. Highlights included additional Effective Casework Model training for adult officers, including the scoring of the LSI-R risk assessment; the development of a video and workbook to provide new officers with an overview of the fundamentals of EBP that was disseminated to all departments; a training of trainers event for adult probation personnel to deliver segments of the Adult Probation Officer Basic Training; and leadership training for probation and juvenile detention managers. Of particular note was an advanced session on EBP for Judges, probation managers and service providers that was held in August 2008.

In response to the passage of Public Act 95-0773, known as the Cindy Bischof Law, the Division developed and promulgated standards for the new Domestic Violence Surveillance Program and worked with multiple stakeholders to plan for the implementation of the Act in 2009. The Division also successfully implemented the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System (ICOTS) in the Fall of 2008 which streamlines the process of transferring offenders in and out of Illinois. Four regional training events were held on the new national rules and protocols for the interstate transfer of offenders, which are designed to enhance efficiency and accountability of the Interstate Compact.



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